THE EXAMINER.

No. 220 SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 1812

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 214.

THE REGENT'S FIRST LEVEE.

THE PRINCE REGENT has now had a grand, unrestricted Levee, and for the first time perhaps begins to regard himself as a regal object. If pleasant looks indeed are a mark of comfortable feelings, and are not to be put on for an occasion like a wig or a pair of whiskers, we have it on record that his ROYAL HIGHNESS was quite satisfied with himself on this important day, for the *Chronicle* in it's account of it assures us that he was not only "in excellent health," but "extremely cheerful;" and not content with this testimony to his good spirits, a paragraph is devoted to the subject in another part of the paper and in the following terms:—"The PRINCE REGENT was uncommonly easy and unembarrassed at his Levee, and did the honours with all the gaiety of heart and polished address which used to adorn him when supported by his early friends. There was no trait of regret visible in his countenance while those friends approached to pay their *profound* respects to him—such is the graceful selfpossession and ease that distinguish a PRINCE from a common man!" By the tone of these observations, the *Chronicle* seems astonished at the uncommon ease, grace, and *all that*, which it has so often represented as a part of his ROYAL HIGHNESS's nature, as if old friendships were things to put people out of countenance at Levees, or as if Princes and Courtiers had any thing else to do on such occasions but to leave their best feelings at home, and put on their best faces. We are here given to understand, I suppose, that his ROYAL HIGHNESS did not blush when he looked at Lords GRENVILLE and GREY, whatever their Lordships might have done for his ROYAL HIGHNESS; but Lord GRENVILLE, the Pittite and coalescer with FOX,—Lord GRENVILLE, the sudden stipulator of Vetos,—Lord GRENVILLE, the Auditor of his own Accounts, must surely acknowledge by this time the utility of having an unembarrassed countenance; and as to Lord GREY and the other "early friends," there was an "early friend" whom his Lordship formerly professed to love and admire, and of whom he used to talk in a most enthusiastic manner, and yet, though his Lordship has entirely renounced him of late, it is not understood that he ever blushes or gives the smallest sign of embarrassment when his merits are brought before him;—I mean a poor fellow, who is now in a desperate condition for want of assistance, and has almost been given over by the physicians,—one REFORM.—"Such is the graceful self-possession and ease that distinguish a" Whig Leader "from a common man;" and so much for early friends and late disappointments.

To return to the "extreme cheerfulness" of the REGENT, and the sound causes of it;—when is a Prince to look or to feel so happy as upon a day that sets before him the glory of his station,—a day that brings the rich and the noble of the land smiling into his presence,—a day that collects together from all parts of the world the images of his distant influence in the persons of Ambassadors,—nay more, that places him in the midst of all those who have shared and of course admired the great secrets of his policy,—who have known his daily habits from a child, which of necessity are such as do him honour,—who have had a hand with him in making the country prosperous and happy;—in short, who have witnessed every part of his good conduct, private and public,—his temperance and social virtues at home, his dignity and contempt of glitter abroad,—his grace, generosity, and patriotism, in every place and on every occasion? Such a day, it is evident, must be full of interest, and ought not to escape examination as it does: but people seem to think that objects worthy of attention are to be found every where but in their own country; and the traveller coming to England to indulge his curiosity in the minutest of our proceedings, is met on the road by the native Englishman setting off in search of distant wonders, because he can find nothing to interest him at home. It is thus that while we hear nothing of our own Court, we are favoured with details of every other from Paris to Pekin; we are told of the curious mixtures that are to be found at the Levees of NAPOLEON,—of the grim etiquette at the courts of Germany,—of the motley and remote embassies that swell the pomp of the Russian audience,—of the "wealth of Ormus and of Ind" that covers the dazzling presence of the Persian Monarch,—of the endless ceremony and worship of China,—nay, even of the mute and retiring Man-God of Thibet, of Turkish, Ægyptian, Algerine, and Abyssinian Levees, and in short, of every possible Court, large or small, that can afford a bench for the Monarch and sticks for his courtiers, down to the Negro Lord of a score of huts, who asked the English traveller "what they thought of him in Europe?" And yet our Levees can hardly be said to be destitute of interest even as objects of ordinary curiosity, setting aside the conclusions that might be drawn from them as to the state of Europe and of society. Our cocked-hats are at least as fit subjects of astonishment as any part of the Chinese habit; a Bishop's or Judge's Wig may fairly be pitted against the head of a Tartar; and if we are amused with such Eastern titles as "Brother of the Sun and Moon," "Nutmeg of Delight," "Lord of the White Elephant," &c. we might be nearly as much entertained,

upon reflection, with the appellation of "Honourable" belonging to a knave,—with "his Grace of such a place," who has neither elegance nor virtue,—or with "his Royal Highness the Duke of so-and-so," who has not an atom of princeliness about him, and is a man of the lowest habits to be found. These considerations, however, do not affect the general dignity of levees, or the "extreme cheerfulness" of the Prince that holds them, who must look around him with a general eye and extract his conscious delight from the picture they exhibit of the success of his politics and the affection of those who strengthen his throne. Upon this principle, who can doubt that the PRINCE REGENT was quite happy on Thursday last? Who can suppose for a moment that his face belied his feelings; or that his cheerfulness, granting that was as manifest as a school boy's at a shew, could have been owing *to* pure want of reflection and sensibility? It appears, that all the leading politicians who are or have been in office, enjoy the privilege of being first gratified with the Royal Presence in an anti-room; so that among the persons who were to give his ROYAL HIGHNESS an earnest of his day's happiness, and to throw an air of cheerfulness on his after appearance, were the "early friends" above-mentioned, who (to use the *Chronicle's* Italics) paid him their "*profound* respects" on the occasion, and thus reminded him of the attachment they had had for him during the space of thirty years. So pleasing a memorial could not but gratify a PRINCE, whose greatest security in these troublesome times is the respect and affection of those who know him; and thus assured and enlivened, it is easy to conceive the delicious sensations with which he advanced into the levee-room, and how delightful he must have appeared in all other eyes as well as his own. What promise of brilliant days and sunshine enjoyments must have been in that look! What amends for all our past darkness and deprivations! What sparkling consciousness of being and of making happy, like the bridegroom coming out of his chamber and rejoicing to run his course! The clouds of war and of sorrow roll away from before him; peace and prosperity look forth from his happy face; a prospect, all radiance and renovation, bursts open upon the eyes of the people and turns their despondency into rapture!

> So comes the Moon, silv'ring the sullen back
> Of a slow-moving cloud, and clears the rack!
> So morning beams upon the skirts of night,
> So balmy comes upon the fresh'ning sight,
> And reassures the land, and tips it's tears with light!

A succession of gratifications awaited him on his entrance. The first person on the list of presentations is his friend and old servant, Colonel M'MAHON, the payment of whose sinecure was refused him the other day by the House of Commons. The recollection of this circumstance might be supposed a little awkward, but then the House had shewed by it that they were not lost to all sense of independence and decency, and this counter-recollection must have been infinitely delightful to a "Patriot Prince." Next in order but one come my Lord MILTON and Mr. WILBERFORCE, with *a petition from Sheffield* and the neighbourhood; and we all know how delicious petitions are to the Royal taste, especially from manufacturing towns in time of war. To these succeeds the Maltese Marquis TESTAFERRATO, "of the ancient Princes CAPO DI FERRO," to complain, no doubt, on the part of his countrymen, that instead of treating them as we promised to do on receiving their island, and making them partakers of the British laws, we have adopted the tyranny of their former masters and used them shamefully,—a grievance for which the PRINCE REGENT will of course be delighted to reproach his Ministers, and to afford every atonement. Then, after a string of Lords and Officers, comes "*Sir Frederick Flood*, on his arrival from *Ireland*,"—not GRATTAN, observe, or NEWPORT, or any of the names that are frequent in the mouths of vile Catholic Committees,—but *Flood*,—Frederick Flood,—*Sir* Frederick. Oh what a number of exquisite recollections about promises, hopes, and consistencies, must that name, coupled with Ireland, have suggested to the congenial patriotism of the PRINCE REGENT! The idea is too much, and renders all other presentations not worth the mention. The few that have been described will be quite sufficient to give the reader a lively conception of his ROYAL HIGHNESS's "uncommon ease" and "extreme cheerfulness;" and as we cannot but feel grateful to Sir FREDERICK, the Ministers, and others, who in spite of all the untoward circumstances, of the most distressing nature, public and private, have contrived to make his ROYAL HIGHNESS so happy, so it would be unjust to withhold our thanks from the several Physicians, who in spite of the late hours, &c. &c. which his ROYAL HIGHNESS has gone through from a boy,—all of course for the good of the nation,—have managed to present him to us on this auspicious Levee-day in a state of "excellent health." It might appear to shallow observers, that a grand Levee, at which more Physicians are present than Ambassadors, has rather an unfavourable aspect in a national point of view, and is not what it used to be at the beginning of the reign, when every important nation in existence had it's Representative at Court; and the same sort of observer might be disposed to be merry, in a Sardonic way, at the many assumptions that are requisite before even these Ambassadors can be allowed their full titles of representation; for granting, he might say, the Turkish and Sardinian Envoys all that they claim (and a great deal it certainly is!), what is the amount of territory belonging to the masters of the Hessian, Neapolitan, and Spanish Ambassadors? But there is no end to cavilling, as the man said when he argued in favour of seduction. The PRINCE, agreeably to his private notions of company, prefers a snug, little party of Ambassadors, who will not perplex him with politics, and who have little or no pretensions of any kind; and if Doctors TIERNEY, SAUNDERS, and KNIGHTON, &c. &c. can preserve his ROYAL HIGHNESS in good spirits and condition, they will do much more for him than has been done for this suffering nation by all the Ambassadors of the Continent, assisted by our own in return.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FROM THE IMPERIAL ARMIES IN SPAIN.

REPORT OF THE MARSHAL DUKE D'ALBUFERA, TO THE PRINCE OF NEUFCHATEL AND WAGRAM.

Head-Quarters, Valencia, 7th Feb. 1812.

MONSEIGNEUR—The fort of Peniscola, which, during the sieges of Saguntum and Valencia, had forced me to throw a detachment in my rear to cover the communication of the army, became immediately afterwards the principal object of my attention. I before observed that it could not be blockaded on account of its natural position. It is situated on a rock insulated by the sea, near the great road, one league from Benecarlos, and is only connected with the Continent by a tongue of land, thirty toises in breadth and sixty in length. An old castle of the Templars, built on the summit, is surrounded by the town, containing 2000 inhabitants, and with a fortification of sufficient extent, guarded by several ranges of batteries. A garrison of 1000 men defended the place, under the orders of Brigadier Garcio Navarro, a man of rank, who was taken prisoner last year at Falcet, and made his escape. Five English vessels cruized on the coast, and communicated with the place, which thus received continual succour from without. On the 20th of January the General of Division, Severoli, with five battalions, commenced by my orders the operations of the siege. A bombardment commenced on the 28th, and continued with activity for eight days. The trenches were opened in the night of the 31st. The enemy kept up a brisk fire. On the second of February, Lieutenant Prunel, an Officer of my staff, whom I had sent with instructions, having been admitted into the place, brought back an answer and propositions which were immediately sent to me. The preamble was remarkable, and of a nature announcing the submission of the place. The Governor in an animated discourse expressed his true sentiments and his hatred of the English, who pressed him with menaces to surrender the fort to them. He hesitated not to prefer the French, and to recognize the present Government as the only one calculated to put an end to the agony of his Country. I sent immediately the proposed capitulation, with my answers in the margin, subjoining a letter to the Governor. In the interval the labours of the siege were continued, but the Governor accepting the modified capitulation, put an end to hostilities. On the fourth at noon, Peniscola was surrendered to the troops of the Emperor, with provisions for two months, and a considerable quantity of ammunition. The circumstances which have accompanied the surrender of Peniscola, and the submission of the Governor, Garria Navarro, are a conquest of opinion, from which I hope the best effects. Every thing here (with the exception of Alicant, of which an English General Roche has taken the command) tends to the conclusion of the war, which may already be regarded as terminated. The inhabitants shew themselves to be actuated by a good spirit on to the gates of Alicant.—I am, with respect, &c. The Marshal Duc D'ALBUFERA.

CAPITULATION.

The Governor and the Military Junta of Peniscola, persuaded that the true Spaniards are those who, uniting themselves to the King Joseph Napoleon, seek to render their unfortunate country less unfortunate, offer to deliver the place on the following conditions:—

I. The individuals of the garrison to be free to retire wherever they wish.—Answer. Free to return to their families, or enter into the service of his Catholic Majesty.

II. Property to be respected, and the inhabitants not to be molested on account of their opinions.—Answer. Granted.

III. The authorities, civil and military, to preserve their respective employs.—Answer. Granted, if fit for their employs.

(The 4th and 5th merely relate to the ratification of the capitulation, and taking possession of the place.)

(Signed) PEDRO GARCIO NAVARRO.
The Marshal Count SUCHET.

M. LE BRIGADIER DON PEDRO GARCIO NAVARRO, COMMANDANT OF PENISCOLA, TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMY OF ARRAGON.

Peniscola, 3d Feb. 1812.

M. LE MARSHAL—The letter of your Excellency is very agreeable, and I desire only opportunities of proving the sincerity of the principles I have manifested. I have followed with zeal—I may say with fury, the party which I believed just; but now that I recognize the necessity of uniting ourselves to our King, to render our country less unfortunate, *I offer to serve you with the same enthusiasm.* Your Excellency may be certain of me. The surrender of a strong fort, with provisions, and all that is necessary for a long defence, must operate as a full conviction, and is a sure guarantee of my promises. I salute you with the greatest respect.

SWEDEN.

GOTTENBURGH, MARCH 6.—Every day brings us some political news. Report states, that the King of Prussia has entered into a treaty with Napoleon, and has consented that all the Prussian sea-ports, except Colberg, Memel, and Konigsburgh, shall be garrisoned by French, with an equal number of Prussian troops. It is also said, that the Prussians are to furnish 50,000 men to France, in case of hostilities with Russia. The three following places in Prussian Pomerania are already in the possession of them, Scheweinemunde, Anclam, and Uaedem. Bernadotte is on a visit to all the ports in Sweden; and wherever a person is found in favour of France, he is sent immediately out of the country. Matters are fast accommodating between Sweden and England. It is said that Russia is to join in the treaty, as France is making vigorous preparations against her. Napoleon is marching troops in large bodies northwards through Holstein, and has already a very considerable army likewise close upon Colberg.

TURKEY.

BUCHAREST, FEB. 6.—The Turkish Envoys, charged with the negociations for peace, have sent Tartars to Constantinople to announce the denunciation of the armistice. This intelligence will not astonish the Divan, because the Porte would not consent to any cessions of territory. The Grand Vizier is to open the campaign with more than 100,000 men.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

On Sunday the 1st inst: a young man of genteel appearance arrived at Harwich by the stage, and went to the Three Cups, where he remained with two travellers during the day, and about seven in the evening, as the coach was about to start, paid his bill, and left the inn, as if intending to go by the coach. Next morning, an old mariner, who was walking on the beach at a short distance from the town, found the dead body of the young man extended with the face downwards, nearly covered with weeds, from the influx of the tide, and near it a pistol-bag. An Inquest was held the same day before B. Chapman, Gent. the Coroner for that Borough, when it was discovered that a bullet had passed through his head. It also came out in evidence, that the deceased was in a melancholy state the whole day, but he appeared perfectly rational. There being no doubt of his having committed the act himself, a verdict of *Felo de se* was returned. He was a stranger at Harwich, and nothing was found on him to lead to his discovery. He was about five feet seven inches high, fair complexion, nose somewhat aquiline, dark hair long on the forehead; he wore a brown surtout, a blue coat, buff waistcoat, grey pantaloons, boots and round hat. He came to Colchester from London by the coach on the Saturday. In his pockets were a shirt, a pair of stockings, three shillings, and a yellow button with a lion rampant on it.

ASSIZES.

ELY.—*Michael Whiting*, a shopkeeper at Downham, near Ely, and a Dissenting Preacher, was indicted under Lord Ellenborough's Act, on a charge of administering poison to George Langman and to Joseph Langman, his brothers-in-law. It appeared in evidence, that the Langmans resided together at Downham, and were small farmers; and that the family consisted of themselves, a sister, named Sarah, about ten years of age, and a female domestic, of the name of Catherine Carter, who acted as their housekeeper and servant; they had another sister who was married to the prisoner. On the morning of Tuesday the 12th of March last, they sent their sister to the prisoner's house to borrow a loaf; the prisoner returned with her and brought a loaf with him, and told the Langmans, that as he understood their housekeeper was going on a visit to her friends, for a day or two, he would bring them some flour and pork to make a pudding for their dinner. He went away, and shortly afterwards returned with a bason of flour and pork; and addressing himself to the housekeeper, said, "Catherine, be sure you make the boys a pudding before you go." He then took the young child home with him to dinner. The housekeeper made two puddings, but observed the flour would not properly adhere; she left them in a kneading-trough, and the Langmans boiled one for dinner; they had hardly swallowed two or three mouthfuls before they were taken exceedingly ill, and seized with violent vomitings. Suspecting the pudding had been poisoned, one of the Langmans gave a small piece to a sow in the yard, which swallowed it, and was immediately taken sick, and after lingering a long time died. The elder brother soon recovered, but the younger one continued in a precarious state for several days. The remnants of the puddings were analysed by Mr. Woolaston, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge, and found to contain a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate of mercury.—The prisoner, who it appeared was a dealer in flour, attempted to account for the puddings being poisoned, by stating, that he had then lately laid some *nux vomica* to poison vermin, and that some of it must accidentally have been carried into his flour-bin. Mr. Woolaston, however, positively stated, that the pudding contained no other poisonous ingredient than corrosive sublimate; and it came out in evidence, that the prisoner, who sold drugs, had purchased of the person whom he succeeded in business a considerable quantity of that poison. It also appeared, that the flour-bins belonging to the prisoner had been searched, and that immediately upon its being discovered that the Langmans had taken poison, the prisoner emptied his bins into the privy, and washed them out. The trial lasted till six o'clock at night, and the Jury, after deliberating about ten minutes, found the prisoner *Guilty*, and the Judge instantly passed sentence of *Death*, and he is left for execution.—By the deaths of the two Langmans, under age, the prisoner's wife, and the child he took home with him, would have become entitled to the father's estate, as the heiresses of their brothers.

CAMBRIDGE.——TRIAL OF D. DAWSON.——This trial, which has occupied so much of the attention of the sporting world, took place on Friday. The Court was so much crowded, that the business was greatly impeded. The Prisoner was indicted for wilfully and maliciously poisoning a colt, by *Eagle*, the property of Sir F. Standish, by infusing a quantity of white arsenic into a water trough on the Newmarket Course, in April, 1811.—*Cecil Bishop*, who had been committed as an accomplice, was admitted an approver, and the substance of his evidence was as follows:—He had been acquainted with the prisoner since the year 1807, witness being at that time shopman to a chemist in Wardour-street. His acquaintance originated in consequence of the latter having represented to him that he had a friend whose horse had been played tricks with, and, in order to retaliate, the prisoner asked witness [illegible] as to what was best to give a horse so as to sic[illegible] killing him; or, in other words, what w[illegible] on the horse prisoner spoke of. [illegible] came very intimate. They had [illegible] and witness had procured solution [illegible], which had been infused into a trough at Doncaster, where two brood mares were destroyed. They had also attempted to poison Lord Darlington's *Rubens* in 1809; and they succeeded in an attempt at Newmarket in the same year. In conjunction with a man, named *Triste*, witness had been employed by the prisoner to infuse poison into the troughs at Newmarket in 1811. *Pirouette*, the favourite for the Craven stakes at Newmarket, was the object of the poisoning; and she was under the care of Mr. Richard Prince, a stable-keeper, at Newmarket, and also a training-groom.—Mr. Prince had under his care the principal horses for the Claret stakes; amongst which were *Spaniard*, and *Pirouette*, the property of Lord Foley; the *Dandy*, the property of Lord Kinnaird; and the *Eagle* colt, the subject of this indictment, all of which were poisoned, but some recovered. *Bishop* said, he had infused the arsenic into the troughs, three in number, where Mr. Prince's horses watered, by means of a syringe, in consequence of their being covered and locked. *Dawson* was the acting-man in the back ground, and *Triste* was the person who was to back the field against the favourites. After having watered the horses on the 1st of May, the day after the claret stakes were run for, they were all taken ill in the stables, refused their corn, and the four which died may be estimated, considering their own value and their engagements, at 12,000*l*. Whilst *Dawson* was in London, *Bishop* was busy in keeping arsenic in the trough; and he addressed the prisoner by the appellation of *Miss Dawson*, and received in return, of Dawson, inclosures to enable him to carry on his nefarious practices. The poisoning of the horses was completely proved by Mr. *Prince*. A young man, named *Longford*, proved that the prisoner had met him at Newmarket in 1810, and consulted him with regard to lending himself as an agent on the occasion. *Dawson* had often called on him, but he refused to participate in his plans.—After *Bishop's* evidence had been gone through, the Judge stopped the proceedings, and directed an *Acquittal*, on the grounds that the prisoner had been indicted as a *principal* instead of an *accessary before the fact*, which, in point of law, could not be maintained. The prisoner was acquitted, to the mortification of a crowded Court, but was detained until next Assizes, on a charge of poisoning Race-horses in 1809.

ESSEX.—*J. W. Rutter*, the Master and Commander of the Post Office Packet, the Lady Frances, carrying the mails from Harwich to Anholt, was indicted for the murder of John Farr, a seaman on board the Packet, on the 8th of Oct. last, at Harwich.—It appeared that some of the sailors, who had smuggled, were running off with the boat of the packet, and that a random shot hit the deceased. A number of highly respectable Gentlemen gave the prisoner an excellent character for humanity, &c. and the Jury returned a verdict of—*Manslaughter*.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, March 9.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

On the motion for the third reading of the Drury-Lane Theatre Bill,

The Duke of NORFOLK opposed the Bill. Whether the patent granted by Charles II. and held out as a foundation for the monopoly claimed by the present Theatres, was legal or not, he would not stop to enquire; but, that it was assumed by some to be valid, and acted upon on that ground, there could be no doubt, and the consequence was, that there were only two regular theatres in the metropolis, though the population was, at the above period, not one third of what it was at present. What had been the result? The Patentees had recourse to the expedient of augmenting their buildings to a size incompatible with the genuine object of scenic representation. Nothing could be seen or heard distinctly by a great part of the audience; and what had been the result of this? Why, that exhibitions were introduced utterly inconsistent with the plan of a regular theatre;

and the stage was degraded with disgusting representations of monsters from Africa, and other things equally improper. The proprietors, indeed, would naturally endeavour to make as much as possible of the concern. This was lawful, and they were not to blame; but such had been the effect of the monopoly. If, however, there were to be only two theatres in the metropolis, he presumed there could be no doubt but the people had a right to have every part of the house open to them. Since there were only two public theatres, care ought, at least, to be taken that these should really be public, and not private subscription theatres. It was for that reason that he objected to the clause which gave a power of establishing an unlimitted number of private boxes; for so the clause in question really did. There was nothing to restrain them from making ten, twenty, or fifty, or one hundred and fifty of the boxes private ones. Great discontent had arisen from an attempt of this kind by the other theatre. Much clamour had been excited by the augmentation of prices, very unjustly, in his opinion; for when the value of money had so much diminished, nothing could be more reasonable than that the prices should be raised. But the cry against the boxes was much better founded, though that was accompanied with assertions, that they were applied to very improper purposes, which was, he believed, utterly devoid of truth. But while no more than two regular theatres were allowed to exist, it certainly was very vexatious to see so many private boxes empty while there were crouds without who could not gain admission. The opposition to them was long carried on, in no very proper mode, to the disgrace of the police; and at length meetings were appointed, and the Proprietors found it expedient to give way so far, and open the greater part of these boxes to the public. The amendment which he wished to introduce, was that the power of erecting this unlimited number of private boxes should be done away, and that the right should stand upon the same laws and regulations as before.

The Earl of ROSSLYN opposed the amendment, and said that the clause to which the Noble Duke objected, was really restrictive, leaving it to the proper persons to limit a certain number of private boxes, whereas there was before no limit by law. There had been 34 or 36 private boxes in the former theatre.

The amendment was negatived.

The Duke of NORFOLK then objected to the power given of leasing these boxes for 21 years, and proposed as an amendment, that they should be only let from year to year, which, to a certain extent, at least, would make them more open to the public in general. This amendment was also negatived.

The Duke of NORFOLK next proposed to add a clause to the Bill, providing that nothing contained in this or the former bill, should go to recognize the validity of the patent of Charles the Second. The ground upon which he did this was, that the report of the Committee had stated this patent as recognised by the former Act. He then adverted to the absurd monopolies which had been sometimes granted, and yet declared to be illegal; and stated as an instance, a patent granted to one of his ancestors, the Earl of Surrey, that every public-house, in the city of Westminster, must be licensed by him. If this patent had been valid, the successors of that Nobleman must have been among the richest men in the world; for they would have had the power of saying, that no one should keep a public-house in Westminster without purchasing a license from them. Commercial monopolies by such patents were too odious to stand long. Theatrical monopolies, being of less importance, were less attended to: but still they stood on the same principle, and ought to be abolished. At present it was at least a question, whether they were legal; but it was the duty of the House to take care that nothing should be done by a side-wind that should appear to recognise them as valid.

The Earl of LAUDERDALE agreed perfectly in what had fallen from the Noble Duke on the subject of monopolies, and if there were any thing in the Bill that should appear to give the least countenance to the idea that Parliament recognised the validity of the patent, he should think that the clause ought to be introduced. He had not examined the Bill sufficiently to enable him to judge whether that was the case or not, and proposed that the farther consideration of the question should be adjourned.

The LORD CHANCELLOR objected to the clause, on the ground that whatever rights the former Bill had given, the persons concerned were now entitled to them: and it would be an act of injustice and bad faith to deprive them of those rights.

Earl GREY declared himself of the same opinion as the Noble Duke, on the subject of theatrical as well as commercial monopolies: and if there was any reasonable ground of suspicion, that there was any thing in the Bill recognizing the legality of the patent, the adjournment, at least, ought to be agreed to.

Lord ERSKINE opposed the Clause, on the ground that there was no such recognition in the Bill.

The question was first put on the motion of adjournment, which was negatived; and then on the additional Clause, which was also negatived.

The Bill was read a third time, and passed.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, March 11.

THE PRINCE REGENT'S LETTER.

Lord BORINGDON said, he held in his hand a printed paper, purporting to be signed by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, addressed to an Illustrious Personage at the head of the Army, and containing matter of high import to the country. Seeing a Noble Secretary of State in the House, he wished to ask that Noble Lord whether the paper to which he had alluded was really the letter of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent? If that was admitted, or if it was not denied, he should then have a further proposition to make to their Lordships.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said, the Noble Lord could not expect an answer to such a question, and he (Lord Liverpool) should not give any answer.

Lord BORINGDON said, the Noble Lord had not denied the genuineness of the letter; an answer, purporting to come from two Noble Lords to that letter, had also been published, and he wished to know if it was the answer of those Noble Lords? Understanding that to be the case, he should feel it his duty to call their Lordships' attention to the subject on Friday se'nnight. That his Royal Highness the Prince Regent in writing that letter, was actuated by the purest and most patriotic motives, he was in duty bound to believe, and in his conscience he was satisfied that however there might be some unfortunate expressions in the letter, that the object of his Royal Highness was to form an Administration on a fair, a liberal, and a broad basis. The melancholy issue was already known, and the darkest and most gloomy prospects now surrounded us. Dangers pressed upon us on every side, while the means of averting the ruin which menaced the country were weakened and enfeebled. It was a subject of vital importance to the people, and therefore, however feeble the effort might be, he felt it to be his duty to make an attempt to avert the dangers which threatened us, and which every day increased. He again expressed his conscientious conviction, that the object of the Prince Regent was to form an Administration on a fair, a broad, and a liberal basis, and he was at the same time convinced that the answer of his Noble Friends to the letter of his Royal Highness had been much misunderstood and misrepresented. The purport of his motion was intended to be an humble Address to the Prince Regent, that he would earnestly endeavour to adopt such measures as would tend best to promote the interests of the country, by ensuring security and tranquillity at home, and respect and consideration abroad. It was possible, however, that in the interval he might see reason to alter the form of his motion. He therefore moved that the Lords be summoned for Friday se'nnight.

Lord GRENVILLE said, he thought it his duty not to be backward in avowing the answer to the letter alluded to by his Noble Friend to be his. There were some clerical errors in the publication, but they were of little consequence. The substance was the same. The sentiments contained in that letter were such as naturally arose at the time in his breast—they were those which his duty to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent dictated—they were those which were dictated by his duty as a subject of the country.

Earl GREY thought it unnecessary to add any thing to what had been stated by his Noble Friend (Lord Grenville), except to avow his concurrence in the sentiments contained in the answer sent by his Noble Friend.

The Duke of NORFOLK said, the Noble Lord (Boringdon) had his thanks for bringing this important subject before the House; but he wished, for the sake of convenience, that an earlier day could be fixed on for the discussion.

Lord BORINGDON mentioned Thursday, the 19th instant, which was agreed to, and the Lords were ordered to be summoned for that day.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 9.

IRISH ESTIMATES.

Mr. W. POLE moved various Resolutions respecting Irish Supplies; upon which some conversation took place, particularly on the grant to the Maynooth College (8,973*l.*) which was objected to as being much too small for the object: but it was finally carried, with the rest.

ORDNANCE.

Mr. WARD moved the Ordnance Estimates for the year, and entered upon various details, concluding with adverting to the Reports of the Commission of Military Inquiry, many of the suggestions contained in which, he said, it was the intention of the Board of Ordnance to adopt, for they seemed to be framed upon the best principles, and with the greatest justice. Among others, what they reported with respect to Contracts met with their concurrence, and it was their determination to raise every supply by open competition. No Military Paymaster, also, was to ask for a sum, however minute, without stating the exact balance in his hands.

The question was then put, that 3,873,000*l.* be granted for the Ordnance Land Service, when a short conversation followed, and the motion was carried.

Mr. PERCEVAL gave notice, that he should move a Call of the House for Monday, the 13th of April, when a motion respecting the Irish Catholics is to be brought forward.—Adj.

Tuesday, March 10.

FOREIGNERS IN OUR ARMY.

Lord FORTESCUE rose to make his promised motion relative to Foreigners in the British Army. During the American war, when there were only 5000 Foreigners in our army, considerable jealousy had existed in the country; and surely now that there were 30,000, that jealousy ought at least to revive.—With respect to the mode in which these Foreigners had been introduced, he admitted that it might not be actual and positive breach of a law, but there were several Acts of Parliament which occasioned in his mind great doubt as to the strict legality of that mode. These were the Acts of the 34th and 39th of the King, authorising his Majesty to receive into his service the Foreigners therein mentioned, and thereby implying that it was not lawful so to receive them without an Act of Parliament. At present they existed in this country in large bodies of cavalry, infantry, artillery, and engineers. They had a staff of their own, Generals of their own, and all the appointments of an independent army; and further than that, some foreign Generals actually had the command of districts; as for instance, General Linsingen, to whom militia and other British regiments actually reported. But this was not all, Foreigners had been even introduced into our native corps. All the old feelings on that subject had been done away, and there was scarcely a British Regiment in which the names of Foreigners were not to be found in the muster-roll. In some cases they were actually promoted from Foreign Regiments into British; and he instanced a transfer of that kind from the German Legion into the 10th Hussars. Nothing could be more censurable than the attempts made in every respect to assimilate British regiments to Germans. Foreigners were admitted into the 10th and 15th Hussars, although Irishmen were refused. He adverted to a permission given by the Magistracy of Nottingham to the soldiers to act as peace-officers. If these soldiers should be foreigners, what mischiefs might not ensue? It had been held in various cases, and particularly in that of Sir Francis Burdett, that the duties of a soldier merged in those of a citizen. It was certainly odd, in the case to which he had just alluded, that there was such a large troop of citizens all clad in his Majesty's clothes. But, supposing they had been Germans, how would the country have felt on the occurrence that took place? What, indeed, could be more derogatory from every honourable principle, than to punish Englishmen who enlisted into a foreign service, at the very moment that we held out all possible inducement to Foreigners to enter the English service? Among other observations on the subject, the Noble Lord took occasion to remark on the appointment of Count Munster, as one of the Commissioners for the management of his Majesty's private property. He wished to have the great legal opinions on the other side upon this appointment. To him it appeared, that as by law an alien could not purchase lands for himself, it was questionable whether he could purchase them in trust for another. He concluded by moving, "That a return be laid before the House of all persons born out of the Kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, or of the dominions thereunto belonging, except such as might be born of English parents, who were serving in any of his Majesty's land forces, except foreign corps."

Lord PALMERSTONE contended, that what had been done was fully justified by the existing law. If Foreign Officers distinguished themselves in British service, he could not see any impropriety in giving them active situations on the Staff, either at home or abroad. With respect to General Linsingen, he had before told the Noble Lord that he was misinformed as to the command of that gallant General, which extended only to the depot of the German Legion. The provisions of the Act of the 44th of the King (under which the German Legion was raised) had completely removed most of the grounds of the Noble Lord's objections. The Noble Lord, adverting to the occasional merging of the duties of the soldier into the citizen, had reprobated the possibility of the interference of any foreign soldier to prevent any breach of the peace—to prevent felony for instance. Now, really, unless the Noble Lord was prepared to argue that a Foreigner in civil life ought not to be allowed to interfere for the prevention of a felonious transaction, for his own part, he did not see how the Noble Lord could be justified in contending that a Foreigner in military life would not be competent to such an interference. The Noble Lord observed, that the Act of Settlement passed when a foreign Sovereign had mounted the Throne, from whom it might be reasonably apprehended that he would give the reins to his indulgence by the introduction of his countrymen. To guard against such introduction, therefore, the Act was made. But now no danger could be expected. Circumstances were so completely altered, that it would not be fair to say that it was proper to prohibit now what was then prohibited. The war was of such a nature as to make it necessary to employ foreign troops to supply the drains on the Continent. With respect to what had been stated about the immense levies that Bonaparte draws from the resources of foreign nations, that was true; he dragged Germans from their country to fight in Spain—Italians to Russia—and Poles to Italy. No serious danger could be apprehended from the employment of Foreigners in our service, as the number of them was limited by law, and the greatest part were serving abroad. The Noble Lord had no objection to the motion, if it were not for the difficulty which would arise in producing the desired returns. An objection certainly would arise as to the names, because the publication of those names on the Continent might do certain mischief to the individuals, in the event of their being taken prisoners by the enemy. The number was already known by reference to the Army Estimates, and there were none in any of the regiments of any consequence except the 60th regiment. He should for these reasons oppose the motion.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT was one of those old fashioned Members, who thought that the guards thrown around the Constitution by our forefathers were worth preserving now. It would be wise and prudent not to deviate from the rules pre-

scribed by those guards. If the principle was to be admitted, by degrees the whole of the army might be composed of Foreigners. He deprecated the holding out to the people the idea that they cannot defend their own country. The pride and glory of the great Lord Chatham was, that the people could defend themselves, and he was the means of removing those Foreigners, at that time obnoxious, and of awakening the people from the state of apathy and torpor into which they had sunk. He thought the practice would tend to depress the spirit of the people, and therefore was against it.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT declared that he was ill prepared to discuss the subject, because he was so deficient in modern lore in respect to the principles of the Constitution. Any one, after hearing the doctrines broached this night, might suppose that a new æra had arrived, and that for the first time feelings of jealousy had been excited respecting innovation. The History of the Country, anterior to the Revolution, furnished ample proofs of the jealousy of our ancestors on the occasion: one of the express stipulations of Magna Charta (made too with a Native Prince on the Throne, who had only about 2000 Foreigners in pay), was, that the people should not lay down their arms until those Foreigners were discharged.—In later times, too, when the struggle for liberty had nearly exhausted her, and sunk in the prerogatives of the Crown, in the reign of the Stuarts, particularly of Charles I. Gentlemen might read that famous Remonstrance of 1641, in which a variety of grievances were stated, but the greatest one of which the people complained was the employment of Foreign troops, which that King, now called through courtesy "the Martyr," (but if he was a Martyr, it was on account of his own obstinacy, in endeavouring to subvert the liberties of the subject), had supported. In that glorious æra of our history, the Reformation, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, similar in point of warfare with the present, for she had to contend with as many powerful enemies as we have now—the Spaniards, aided by the Guises and the force they could bring—Ireland in a state of disturbance still more dangerous than now—and Scotland divided from the Crown of England, what did that Queen do? She did not depend for security upon Foreigners, but she merely applied to the people, satisfied that, reigning as she did in their hearts, the country was safe; and what was the consequence? They carried her through the difficulties.—Her name was then and had ever since been looked up to with veneration. Why, therefore, was the country called upon now to employ and to trust for its defence to German troops? To be sure, he had not the same jealousy or fear of German mercenaries as of *mercenaries of another description in a certain place.* Instead of trusting to this sort of defence, he would recommend Government to turn their attention to Ireland, and to enlist the hearts and minds of between four and five millions of the people of that country. A great deal had been said about the Constitution, without seemingly knowing what it really is. Volumes of law had passed since the Act of Settlement, to him totally incomprehensible. The Act of Settlement was a compact between the Sovereign and the People, which ought not to be violated on either side. Much had been said about enlistment from gaols. He thought that the construction put upon the conduct of the unfortunate sailors found in the army of France, when our arms captured the Island of Mauritius, was not a correct one. To try men for high treason, and execute them as traitors, *for the same sort of act which we encourage ourselves in the subjects of the enemy,* was too much. The material part of the question, however, was, whether we had a Constitution, and whether it would not be more advisable to adhere to it, and to depend upon the People for perfect security. In resorting to first principles rather than to throw them away, security was to be found: that would be the wiser plan.

Mr. PERCEVAL observed, that the question did not embrace a variety of topics, as to whether the Statute of the 44th and 46th of the King were politic or expedient, but whether the construction was right which the Noble Lord and the Hon. Baronet had put upon them. He would admit, that the 44th of the King was contrary to the Act of Settlement. As far, however, as he could form an opinion upon it, the Act had two distinct provisions—the one for enlisting Foreigners into corps, specifically to serve in foreign parts, and the other having a general application as to enlistment. Those provisions were not under discussion now. It was true that this country, both at home and abroad, had the aid of those persons; but could any man, looking at the present state of the Army and Navy, say that this country trusted for its defence and protection to Foreigners? It was the peculiar nature of the present war, that all the means for carrying it on, adapted to British feeling and to British objects, should be employed. With those views Foreigners were employed, and the first employment was from among the Hanoverians, who were driven from their own country by the invasion of the enemy. The Hon. Baronet had made some observations respecting the trial of the sailors found in arms. But he would put the case in answer of the forcible seizure of the Spaniards under Romana, who were forced to serve against their country, until relieved by being taken by this country into its service. We enlisted them therefore out of a service, into which they were compelled to enter. Was there any analogy in the cases? Was the case similar to that of our sailors? The principle of enlisting Foreigners was to fight the battles of their own country under our banners. With respect to the infringement of the Constitution, the Act of 44 was enlarged by that of 46, when the last Administration was in power; of course the present Government could not be blamed for carrying into effect the provisions of that Act. The Right Hon. Gentleman then alluded to the appointment of Count Munster, which he had recommended in perfect ignorance of the extent of his Majesty's private property; but conceiving it likely that part of that property might be of Hanoverian extraction, if he might so express himself, he thought information might therefore be derived from that gentleman. If the appointment was illegal, he trusted the House would direct it to be corrected. With respect to the Noble Lord's motion, great difficulty would arise in procuring names from Portugal, the East and West Indies. As to the numbers, it was admitted that greater numbers were abroad than authorised by law, but necessity enforced it.

Lord A. HAMILTON deprecated the enlistment of Foreigners to a great extent, especially of Officers, when so many British Officers were unemployed.

Mr. BENNETT wished to know why the Irish nation were treated with such indignity as to be refused by order serving in the 10th Hussars?

Col. PALMER, in reply to the Hon. Gentleman, stated, that he did not know any such order was made. Their frequent desertions, however, was an objection to their being taken into the regiment.

Mr. PERCEVAL said, he would not object to the motion of the Noble Lord if it were not extended to the Officers and Men now serving abroad.

Lord FOLKESTONE then begged leave to withdraw the motion, for the purpose of offering one of the nature suggested, which was immediately made for a return of the number of all Foreign Officers and Soldiers now serving at home, distinguishing the Officers from the Soldiers, and specifying the places in which they were serving.—Agreed to.

SUPPLY.

Mr. LUSHINGTON brought up the Report of the Committee of Supply.

Mr. HUTCHINSON offered a few observations on the Grant to Maynooth College; and some remarks were made by Mr. BANKES on the Contract for Horses, which were replied to by Mr. R. WARD and Mr. W. POLE, who contended that the Contracts alluded to had been put an end to, very much for the benefit of the Public. He (Mr. W. Pole) *had found out* that Mr. Willan, by his Contract to supply 3500 Horses, gained 60 or 70,000*l.* a-year! though they were furnished at the moderate charge of three shillings per day. *In* consequence of this he had recommended the purchase of horses, and the result had been a saving in the first year of 50,000*l.* and in each subsequent year, he believed, of not less than one hundred thousand pounds.

The Resolutions were then agreed to,—Adjourned.

Wednesday, March 11.

Mr. WHITBREAD moved that the Lords' Amendments to the new Drury-lane Theatre Bill be agreed to; the motion was carried.

The House then went into a Committee on the Marine Mutiny Bill, when Mr. Croker proposed an additional clause, empowering Courts Martial to inflict the punishment of *imprisonment*.

MARRIAGE ACT.

Mr. WILSON entered at considerable length into the origin and nature of the provisions of the law, as it now stood, respecting marriages contracted without the due consent of parents and guardians.—He stated, that in consequence of many scandalous abuses prevailing at the period of the existing enactments, the other House of Parliament had directed the Judges to prepare a Bill for the purpose of remedying the evil. He concluded with moving for leave to bring in a Bill to explain and amend an Act, commonly called the Marriage Act, of the 16th Geo. II.—Leave granted.

CONVICTS ON BOARD THE HULKS.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE wished to call their attention to the extended practice of admitting convicts into the military service of the country, and the greatly increased number of free pardons. The House would recollect that an Honourable General had lately stated in that House that upwards of 143 persons lately discharged from the hulks had been admitted into one regiment. He was ready to agree, that this was a practice which, in certain cases and to a particular extent, was perfectly justifiable. His complaint was, that there had evidently been an unwise and indefensible excess, and a total negligence in the exercise of the prerogative of the crown in this respect. Was the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Ryder) acquainted with all the circumstances of the individual cases in question? had he inquired into the particulars of the offences and characters of the persons pardoned; or had any references been made to the Judges who tried them? He knew from the Right Hon. Gent. himself, that none of these things had been done. He knew from his own confession, that all had been done on the mere report and representation of Mr. Graham, who though a highly respectable person, it was to be recollected held the office of Superintendant of the Hulks, and who visiting the hulks about once in quarter, necessarily acted on the information of others. It was therefore for the House to consider, whether this description of persons was such, as that their representation formed a proper ground for inducing that House to sanction this unprecedented exercise of the executive authority. The question was not less connected with the administration of our penal law, than with the probable effects of such a system on the discipline and character of the army. The Hon. and Learned Gentleman, after commenting on the inadequacy of the punishment inflicted by the system of confinement in the hulks, concluded by moving for a Return of the numbers directed to be transported since the 1st January 1810, together with the number of persons who had received pardons, or had been admitted into the Army and Navy.

Mr. RYDER contended, that in granting free pardons the Government had only followed former example. Those who had been lately enlisted, had been described by Mr. Graham, to whose character and exertion he was always proud to bear testimony, as much reformed in morals, and as fit in every respect to serve in the army. It had been formerly a condition in granting these pardons, that the persons receiving them should serve abroad the rest of their lives. But it had been lately deemed more advisable to make the privilege of returning home attainable by the observance of sober habits and moral conduct. There were three Regiments formed from persons taken from the hulks, and their conduct, he could affirm on the best authority, was such that it would yield to none in the service. He then alluded to a letter which he had received in 1807, from Colonel Gordon, respecting the Royal African Corps, one of those regiments which behaved so well during a year's stay at Alderney, as to receive the thanks of the inhabitants. He read also an extract from the dispatch containing the account of the capture of Guadaloupe, in which great praise was bestowed on the Royal York Rangers, another regiment formed chiefly from the hulks, for their bravery and state of discipline. He wished to throw a veil over the former conduct of such men, and it was on that ground that he should oppose any inquiry, which could only tend to revive unpleasant recollections. If the Honourable Gentleman who made the motion could specify any improper case, he should be ready to meet him. Upon the whole he thought it desirable that the discussion should go no farther.

Mr. C. W. WYNNE thought it could never be advantageous that 120 men should at once go into a regiment from the hulks. The Right Honourable Gentleman said much of the propriety of keeping the place from which these men came secret. Good God! was it possible that a secret could be kept by 120 men. As well might he say that 20,000 men should lie in ambush at Knightsbridge.

Mr. STOURGES BOURNE opposed the motion. The persons taken from the hulks were generally, he believed, young men.

General FERGUSSON once knew an offender sent from the hulks into the army upwards of 50 years of age. This man had formerly held a commission in the army, and was convicted of forgery. With respect to the secrecy mentioned by the Right Honourable Gentleman (Mr. Ryder) he could only say, he once saw 30 men marched up from the beach, conducted by soldiers with fixed bayonets, and the officer, when he delivered them over, claimed a receipt for their bodies.

Sir S. ROMILLY could see no objection to the returns. No mischief could ensue from this. It would merely enable them to know the numbers so discharged at any one time from the hulks. If the practice was for the advantage of the public, why were they not to be put in possession of that fact? One would be glad to know something of the rules by which those persons were selected.

Mr. WILBERFORCE thought the returns might do mischief. He thought the plan of mixing them with other regiments preferable to separate regiments.

General TARLETON had had regiments into which men from the hulks had entered stigmatized as gaol birds. He implored and entreated the House, in the name of the Army, not to sanction the practice of mixing those men with the regular army.

The motion was negatived without a division.

COLONEL PALMER'S EXPLANATION.

Colonel PALMER stated his anxiety to correct a misrepresentation he was very sorry to have seen in the Papers, of what he was reported to have stated in answer to the assertion, that an order had been issued to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent's regiment to exclude Irishmen. Being aware that there were some grounds for such statement, he did not at the time take on himself to contradict it fully: but that he was now enabled to state, from the highest authority, that no order of the kind had ever been issued. He admitted that the Recruiting Officers had received instructions from the Commanding Officer, Colonel Quinton, *to enlist English in preference to Irish*, and if any blame was to attach to him for this, he begged to take his share. That he had not stated, as reported, that his objection had been on account of the Irish deserting to the enemy; on the contrary, no one was more convinced than himself of the loyalty, courage, and fidelity of the Irish. What he did state, was, that the description of the Irish they met with in this country were *liable to desert*, which was a reason for objecting to them; and to prove that his regiment entertained no national prejudice, they objected, in the same manner, to various classes of their own countrymen—to all Londoners, and inhabitants of manufacturing towns, and confined their recruits to that class of persons brought up to agricultural pursuits; for they found that Irishmen, and those of their own country who were not in early life accustomed to the care of horse, made bad grooms.—Adjourned.

Friday, March 13.

PORTUGAL.

A Message was brought up from the Prince Regent, stating that the aid afforded the Portuguese Nation had been productive of the best effects to the common cause; and he therefore trusted that the House would enable him to continue the same.—Referred to the Committee of Supply.

MILITARY FLOGGING.

On the third reading of the Mutiny Bill,

Sir F. BURDETT rose to propose a clause forbidding the infliction of the cruel and degrading practice of Flogging, which, with Major James, Sir Robert Wilson, and other Officers, he deemed injurious to the character of the Soldier and the Nation. Under Marlborough, he believed that Flogging had never been resorted to.—The statement of the Judge Advocate, a few days ago, that only eight persons had been condemned to this punishment during the year, was a gross delusion. This statement referred only to General Courts Martial; had he specified the number of Regimental ones, *he might have added a thousand for every single instance.* By care on the part of the Officers to the wants and comforts of the men, and checking little offences by minor punishments, he was satified that the torture of Military Flogging need not be inflicted. About eight years ago, said the Honourable Baronet, in Gibraltar alone, *no less than eight persons died*, in a very short period, in consequence of this mode of punishment; and when a ninth was sentenced, the Officer refused to execute the order, and was ordered home, but afterwards replaced. Were he asked what he would substitute? He would answer, offer the soldier something as a reward for good conduct. Now, when a soldier was disabled and discharged, after having gallantly fought the battles of his country, he got six-pence or nine-pence a-day. They should be rendered comfortable when disbanded or disabled, and not suffered to go about crippled as a beacon to prevent others engaging in the service.—The abolition of the flogging system could not be a dangerous experiment. An illustrious Officer (the Duke of Gloucester) had not suffered flogging in his regiment for four years. The practice was also disapproved by the Commander-in-Chief, Lords Moira, Wellington, Hutchinson, and other distinguished personages. It was a monstrous aggravation of injustice, and a Negro Slave was not treated with such barbarity as a British Soldier, for in the West Indies a Master could not inflict as many lashes as a Court-Martial.—Sir Francis concluded by proposing his clause.

Mr. M. SUTTON said, that the Hon. Baronet's speech was an appeal to the passions and not to the head. The army would recoil with horror from the disgusting picture drawn by him. It was not to be endured that the condition of the English Soldier was to be represented as worse than that of the West Indian Slave. The picture was as false as it was degrading. Every possible care was used to decrease the number of punishments; but the system could not be wholly done away.—The Motion had his unqualified dissent.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Sir G. WARRANDER, Mr. C. ADAMS, General LOFTUS, Lord PALMERSTONE, General PHIPPS, General PORTER, and Lord COCHRANE, resisted the motion; which was supported by Mr. BENNETT, Mr. WHITBREAD, and Sir SAMUEL ROMILLY. Sir Samuel stated, that instances could be pointed out, WHERE THE PUNISHMENT OF FLOGGING CAUSED DEATH, WITH SHOCKING AGGRAVATIONS.—(*No, no; from the Ministerial benches.*)—He had read a statement by one of the Missionaries at the Cape of Good Hope, who had been called in to attend two soldiers, one of whom had been sentenced to be shot, and the other to receive *one thousand lashes.* The wretched man received 224 of the number ordered, when the Surgeon interfered, and no further punishment took place. The man, however, died in consequence. Here, then, was an instance, in which the sentence of a Court-Martial went to impose a punishment four times greater than God had enabled a human creature to endure.

On a division, there appeared only *six* votes in favour of the motion, and seventy-nine against it.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Admiralty-Office, March 10.

Copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Fremantle to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated on board his Majesty's ship Milford, Palermo Bay, Jan. 11, 1812.

SIR,—I have the honour to inclose, for the information of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the copy of a letter transmitted to me by Captain Rowley, of his Majesty's ship Eagle, detailing the capture of the French frigate Pomone, and Persanne storeship, by his Majesty's ships Active, Alceste, and Unite, on the 28th of November 1811.

I have the honour to be, &c. T. F. FREMANTLE.

P. S. Captain Rowley, in his letter to me of the 18th ult. also mentions the loss of the French frigate Flora.—"She was going from Trieste to Venice; was caught with a strong borer, and stranded off Chiozza, when every soul on board perished, with the exception of five or six."

His Majesty's ship Alceste, off Lissa, Dec. 4, 1811.

SIR,—The enemy's squadron from Corfu, going to Trieste, were met with, on the 29th ult. by three of his Majesty's ships under my orders. The Persanne was chased and taken by the Unite, after a long run; the Pauline and Pomone chased by the Alceste and Active, and, after a most severe action of two hours and forty minutes, the Pomone was taken, totally dismasted, and Pauline escaped, owing to the Alceste having her maintop-mast shot away. The Alceste has twenty killed and wounded; the Active about thirty-two; and, I lament to say, Captain Gordon has lost a leg, and his First Lieutenant an arm.

The details of the action I shall have the honour of transmitting by the first man of war going down.—I have the honour to be, &c. MURRAY MAXWELL, Capt.

Charles Rowley, Esq. Captain of his Majesty's ship Eagle, Senior Officer at Corfu, &c. &c.

Admiralty-Office, March 10.

Commodore Penrose, at Gibralter, has transmitted a letter from Lieutenant Bartholomew, commanding his Majesty's gun-brig Richmond, giving an account of his having, on the 5th of last month, attacked, in a Bay near Vera, on the coast of Grenada, a French privateer called L'Intrepide, of 18 guns and 180 men. On the Richmond opening her fire on the privateer, her crew set fire to her, and took to their boats: the vessel was then taken possession of, her cable cut, and she was brought out more than a mile, when she blew up, within ten minutes after she had been abandoned.

BANKRUPTS.

G. and J. Arnall, Birmingham, merchants.
T. Bolton, Worcester, vintner.
L. Hindmarsh, jun. Alnwick, tanner.
W. Wilks, Leeds, merchant.
G. Ellison, North Shields, linen-draper.
W. Brown, Madeley Wood, Salop, shopkeeper.
W. Barke, Stratford-upon-Avon, victualler.
J. Lawson, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.
J. Brown, Bristol, victualler.
W. Reynolds, Walsall, Stafford, grocer.
T. Norbury, Warrington, Lancaster, grocer.
S. Rogers, Malta, merchant.
J. Bennett, Manchester, builder.
J. Brown, St. Catherine's-street, glass-seller.
T. Young, Hythe, Kent, carpenter.
W. Gray and T. Holding, Cape of Good Hope, merchants.
W. Lowe, Royton, Lancaster, machine-maker.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.

M. Brooks, Malmesbury, Wilts, mercer.
T. Fotherly and R. White, jun. Gosport, ship-chandlers.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Brookman, Norton Hawkefield, Somerset, horse-dealer.
R. Tod, Liverpool, merchant.
J. Hockenhull, Sandbach, Chester, corn-factor.
J. Waitt, Kendall, Westmorland, linen-draper.
R. Beckwith, Baldwin's-gardens, Middlesex, leather-cutter.
W. Jones, Barton-upon-Needwood, Stafford, draper.
W. Godden, Cranbourne-street, linen-draper.
J. Henderson, Gloucester-street, Queen-square, harness-maker.

W. Head, Adelphi, army-clothier.
H. Marchant, Barking, Essex, fisherman.
S. Potter, Milk-street, London, merchant.
C. Brown, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, joiner.
T. Johnson, Heaton-Norris, Lancashire, cotton-spinner.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. . . 60⅞—Consols for Acc. . . 60⅞ 61

Mr. B.'s Favour from Bath is received.

THE EXAMINER.

London, March 15.

There is no news of the least consequence from Spain, official or unofficial, except the surrender of Peniscola to the French. There are plenty of reports, however; and among others, the resumption of hostilities between the Turks and Russians,—the probability of a declaration on the part of the King of Prussia in favour of the Emperor Alexander, should the latter make war with France,—and a new repudiation on the part of Napoleon, in consequence of a dispute between him and his Empress. Upon the subject of hostilities between the Turks and Russians, most people, I believe, have but one opinion, viz. that they are always probable when they do not happen, and always foolish and good for Bonaparte when they do. The opinion respecting a Prussian declaration against France will hardly be so unanimous, and indeed is most likely confined to those who are uncharitable enough to wish for an event so fatal to the Monarch himself and so useless to all parties; for Bonaparte could not only have annihilated him long ago,—he could do it now with a stroke of his pen whenever he pleased, and Frederick William knows this as well as any of us, or he would not be so obsequious to all the views of Napoleon, who even now uses the Prussian territory like a mere out-post of his own. His Majesty, it is true, might chuse to escape from despair, and fight by the side of his former sworn friend; but it would only be choosing a violent and sanguinary abdication instead of a quiet one: and is Coalition come at last to this? Do the English Ministers mean to say to all their old allies, "Fight it out at once, and get dethroned; for we have done almost as much for you already, and you cannot possibly reign any longer." This might be magnanimity on their parts; but it would be sheer impudence and want of feeling on our's. As to the dispute between Napoleon and Louisa, and her subsequent repudiation, it has all the air of one of the vulgar stories so long in use with the retailers of French scandal; and the Paris papers are quite silent about it. Napoleon, who is an ill-tempered and passionate man, may have had twenty disputes with his wife, for aught that we know; but not to mention that he is represented at other times as being absolutely uxorious, it is not at all likely that he would repudiate a Princess, who connects him with the old Sovereigns of Europe, who conciliates the old Noblesse to the Court—if indeed they require conciliation—and who is, above all, the mother of the Heir to his Empire, whose best guardian she would be in case of his own death. But whenever the editors of certain papers are at a loss for a little sauce to their old dishes, or wish to put us unfortunate Englishmen into good spirits, they do us the honour of tossing up an anecdote or two like the present; and in default of a better, would make Napoleon himself cut his throat at a lodging in Threadneedle-street.

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Letters from Dublin received yesterday state that Riots have taken place at Leixlip, Maynooth, Edenderry, and along the line of the Royal and Grand-Canals. The Yeomanry there are under arms; and it is said that the rioters have carded to death a person who was bringing up provisions for exportation, and have also cut the Canal in two places, with a view to intercept provisions to Dublin.—The cause of these disturbances is attributed to the rise of price in the necessaries of life, on account, as some assert, of the great exportation of Grain and Potatoes.—Yet, notwithstanding the alarming state of both England and Ireland, the Courtiers affirm that the Empire never was in a more flourishing and happy condition!

The papers say that Government have declined granting to the Baron Gerambe the permission to send a Messenger to the Austrian Minister at Paris.—Well they may.—The Baron is a subject of the Emperor of Austria, the Ally of Bonaparte. What can the Baron have to send to France?

Lord Cochrane says, that family interest prevailed to such a degree, that even the Lords of the Admiralty had lists made out; and when an officer went to offer his services, or to solicit promotion for services performed, he was asked—are you recommended by my Lady this, or Miss that, or Madam t'other; and if not, he might as well have staid at home.—This Mr. Yorke denied; but he also denied that GAGGING was resorted to in the Navy, though it is well known that men have died under its torture.

Sir J. Warrender asserts, in the House of Commons, that "British Officers dare not lift their hands to strike a soldier." This, indeed, may be the *law*, but how often is it violated? Has it not been proved in Court, that Captain and Adjutant Mason was constantly in the habit of striking the men in the foulest manner, using, at the same time, the most disgusting oaths and epithets? It is to be hoped that his new Colonel will look a little into the concerns of the regiment, and not leave every thing in the hands of such a man: in fact, there is scarcely an Officer in the 2d Tower Hamlets regiment that knows his duty. They are chiefly occupied in other matters, holding situations in the India House, &c. &c. or following their trades.

Whatever Colonel Palmer may say, it is a fact that the recruiting officers have orders not to enlist Irishmen into the 10th Dragoons. Within these few weeks, several very fine young Irishmen have been rejected. It is equally the fact, that Londoners are *not* refused;—at this moment there is a recruiting party in the metropolis. How indecent are such denials and assertions!

A *fracas* happened on Wednesday last at the Ancient Concert, which has excited much conversation in the higher musical parties. It seems that Catalani was to have sung very early in the first act, but did not enter

the orchestra till it was nearly ended. She was saluted by general marks of disapprobation, and also from the Directors' box, where were the PRINCE REGENT, the Duke of CUMBERLAND, the Archbishop of YORK, and the Earls FORTESCUE and DARNLEY. CATALANI immediately retreated. Her husband expressed great resentment, and some controversy took place between him and the Noble Directors. She went through her part afterwards, but with great discomposure, and has since addressed a letter on the subject to the PRINCE REGENT, who referred the matter to the Noble Directors.—*Sun.*

Another Stockbroker named *Fall*, has just gone off to America with his Employer's property. The money belonged to a house at Bristol, and amounted to 20,000*l.*; but as in *Walsh's* case, the culprit had not wit enough to manage his knavery effectually, and it is supposed that 16 or 18,000*l.* will be recovered.

The bad effects of the Theatrical Monopoly have at last excited attention. In the Lords, the Duke of NORFOLK and others have spoken against the baneful system and its disgusting consequences; and there is reason to believe that the project of a Third Theatre,—of moderate dimensions, in which people can see and hear,—will finally be carried.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 111.

LYCEUM.

IT would be unjust to this Theatre, in spite of Mr. ARNOLD's vagaries in the play-bills and in his own pieces, not to observe how well it continues to surpass it's huge "classical" rival with respect to it's new productions.—Within a short period, a variety of wretched melo-dramas have wearied out the audiences at Covent-Garden; Mr. REYNOLDS has resorted to German trash which had already surfeited the public; and Mr. DIBDIN, depending unluckily upon himself, has had a comedy damned,—a final lesson, it is to be hoped, to that pertinacious retailer of Joe Miller. Within the same period at the Lyceum, we have had a comedy from a gentleman who has read BEAUMONT and FLETCHER, an opera from Mr. MOORE,—not worthy of him, it is true, but much superior to those of his contemporaries,—a play in imitation of the old English dramatists,—and now we are presented with a farce by the author of the *World* and *Raising the Wind*. All this is highly creditable, and must be proportionately advantageous to the Managers; and even in revivals, they can make no vulgar stand by the side of Messrs. HARRIS and KEMBLE, if the matter is estimated by the real honour due to the pieces revived in the adequate performance of them; for though they have no pretensions to the revival of tragedies, yet the other theatre has as little to the revival of sterling comedies, in which women are concerned; and DOWTON's single performance of the *Hypocrite* is a masterpiece of smooth and unaffected strength, which in point of acting may challenge all the revivals at Covent-Garden for the last ten years.

The new farce, called *Turn Out*, is founded on the inordinate self-opinion and irritability of *Restive*, an old politician, (Mr. DOWTON), who is in possession of infallible schemes for liquidating the National Debt, and effecting a coalition between England, North America, and the Cape of Good Hope; and is consequently eager to enjoy every body's praises unalloyed with objection or doubt. By these humours he soon tires out his connexions, and gets into the hands of a hypocrite and parasite, *Dr. Truckle* (LOVEGROVE) who so works upon him by reading his manuscript and submitting to all his caprices, not excepting an occasional kick or two, that he turns his nephew (PHILLIPS) out of doors, in order to make the Doctor sole heir to his wealth and master of his affections, and even sends for a distant female relative from Scotland in order to marry her to the old sinner. Unluckily however, the young lady, *Marian Ramsay*, (Miss DUNCAN) has long been in love with *Somerville* the nephew, though not aware hitherto of the relationship between them, and now discovering it, together with the artifices of *Dr. Truckle*, she alters her behaviour from pretending to be half an idiot to a course of seduction on the affections of the old gentleman, and in an interview with the Doctor, introductory to their proposed marriage, contrives not only to annoy him with an affectation of romance, but to alarm him against the match by hints of a previous connexion, of a nature sufficiently anticipating. His flat refusal of her, in consequence, irritates the uncle to such a degree, that he is turned out of doors after the nephew, and happening to meet with the latter, as he is going to sit down to dinner with his servant *in the open air*, is invited to join them with assurances of forgiveness and a promise of employment in the service of a widow, which together with the bumpers of wine poured down his throat by the valet operate so forcibly on his candour, that he drinks confusion to old politicians, and is in the midst of his reckless jollity, when the old gentleman, who has been brought that way on purpose, comes in upon his enjoyments, is received by him with snaps of his fingers, and of course receives his nephew with favour upon the spot. The hands of the lovers are then united, according to ancient custom, and the truckling hypocrite, after being given to understand that the promise about the widow was all a jest, is carried off in drunkenness and despair.

The reader will discover in this story a resemblance to various incidents and characters already dramatized, particularly of *Marian Ramsay* and her tricks to *Maria* in the *Citizen*, and of *Dr. Truckle* to *Dr. Cantwell* in the *Hypocrite*. The idea of the politician was evidently suggested by a similar personage in the *Lecture on Heads*, who deals in caricature coalitions, talks of the Hottentots as being in the Protestant interest, and has a subtle scheme for bringing round his Catahaws from North America and making a diversion upon the settlements of the King of Tartary. Mr. KENNEY's statesman, however, is as inferior to STEVENS's in broad humour, as *Marian Ramsay* is to *Maria*; and *Dr. Truckle* has evidently no pretensions to a comparison with his original. Neither does the dialogue present any thing particularly worthy of notice; it leaves nothing upon the recollection;—there is also a reprehensible coarseness in the insinuations that influence *Truckle* against the marriage, and the influence after all is misplaced in such a character, whose mercenary views are not at all likely to be delicate on the subject;—and to crown this list of imperfections, the words of the songs are almost as bad as Mr. ARNOLD himself could have written, and with the exception of one that is sung by Mr. KNIGHT, are as badly set by Mr. KING:—but *taken altogether*, with its situations, its bustle of incident, and what it has copied from its betters, the farce, though unworthy of Mr. KENNEY, is a very *seeable* one, and improves in drollery as it proceeds. Miss

Duncan's performance gives a sort of half sketch of her *Maria* in the *Citizen*; Dowton, always masterly in his anger, which he can preserve from caricature even in its utmost violence, must of course give us some excellent touches in *Restive*;—Oxberry and Knight, two enamoured valets, have an amusing scene,—the most original indeed in the piece,—in which they confide their secrets to each other, and produce the keepsakes which they received from their respective sweethearts;—and the conclusion is wound up with great effect by the impotent uproriousness of Lovegrove, and the flat profligacy under which he is caught out. Thus with the help of authors and actors, Mr. Kenney has succeeded in pleasing his audience, and in producing a farce that shall run for the season; but has the ambition of the author of the *World* sunk down to this? Does he please himself as well as a good-natured audience, and go to bed as content with it as they? It is to be hoped not; for though he no longer affords any reasonable expectation of being the restorer of the drama, and though it may appear ludicrous to others as well as himself to hear critics talking about his ambition, yet at least he should not grow worse and worse, and suffer his bad habits of writing to encrease upon him, when fresh authors begin to look about them a little and to think for themselves.

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COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

The Regent had his first levee on Thursday. It was most numerously attended. To the astonishment of some, Lords Grey, Grenville, and Erskine, &c. &c. were among the visitors.

"Nothing has been talked of for the last week but the *fracas*, as it is called, which occured at Carleton-house, on Saturday, the 22d ult. On that day the Prince Regent had a large party at dinner, among whom were the Princess Charlotte, the Duchess of York, and their female attendants; their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Cambridge; Lords Moira, Erskine, and Lauderdale; Messrs. Adam, Sheridan, &c. The conversation soon turned on the late attempt to form an *united* Administration; and the Prince is said to have expressed himself in warm terms of disapprobation of the joint letter of Lords Grey and Grenville, in answer to the letter from the Prince to the Duke of York, relative to the important business. These expressions of disapprobation were not, however, unmixed with complaints of being deserted by his early friends. The Prince having repeated more than once his surprise and mortification at the conduct of Lords Grey and Grenville, and characterised it in terms which such emotions would naturally suggest, Lord Lauderdale, who considered himself as particularly and personally addressed to on the occasion, entered into a justification of his friends, and declared in a tone of firmness, not perhaps quite in unison with the usual phraseology of a Court, that the letter which returned the answer of his two Noble Friends did not simply speak the individual sentiments of those two Noble Lords, but that it had the approbation of the principal persons who held the same political principles and opinions; and that for himself he was ready to say, that he was present and assisted in the drawing up of that answer, and that not only every sentence, but every word in it, had his most cordial assent.—Here, as might be expected, the conversation became more warm, and the Prince appeared to be suddenly and deeply affected by Lord Lauderdale's reply, so much so indeed, that the Princess Charlotte, who was still present, observing his agitation, dropt her head, and burst into tears; upon which the Prince turned round, and begged the female part of the company to withdraw; but the Noblemen and Gentlemen remained with the Prince Regent till a late hour. Mr. Adam is said to have entered, at the request of his Royal Highness, into a friendly explanation of what had passed with Lord Lauderdale: and his Royal Highness afterwards came up to his Lordship, and, shaking him by the hand, expressed his wish that there should be no difference between them. Here the matter ended for that night; but, on the following day, Lord Lauderdale, fearful of misunderstanding or misrepresentation, reduced what he had said to writing, and sent it in a letter to the Prince; which, it is said, has produced a disagreeable impression on the Prince's mind."—*Caledonian Mercury.*

Carlton-House, March 10.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been graciously pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to make the following Appointments:—

Vice-Chamberlain.—The Earl of Yarmouth.

To be Lords of his Majesty's Bedchamber.—The Most Hon. the Marquis of Headford,* the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Melbourn, the Right Hon. Lord Heathfield, the Right Hon. Lord James Murray, the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Petersham.

First Groom and Master of the Robes.—Nassau Thomas, Esq.

Grooms of the Bedchamber.—Gen. Charles Leigh, Gen. E. Stephens, Gen. T. Sloughter Stanwix, the Hon. Henry Stanhope, Lieut.-Gen. Sir. J. Cradock, Lieut.-Gen. Wm. Keppel, and Col. Wilson Bradyll.

Clerk Marshal and Chief Equerry.—Col. Benj. Bloomfield.

Equerries.—Major-Gen. Hammond, Lieut.-Col. Wm. Congreve, Major-Gen. Bayley, Coldstream Guards, the Hon. Frederick Howard, 10th Light Dragoons, and Col. Vivian, 7th Dragoons.

* Can this be the *Most Hon.* Marquis of Headfort, who seduced the wife of the Rev. Charles Massey, and who paid ten thousand pounds damages for such seduction?—Can this be the man whom Mr. Curran thus described:—"In the middle of the day, at the moment of divine worship, when the venerable husband was on his knees, directing the prayers and thanksgiving of his congregation to their God, that moment did the remorseless adulterer chuse to carry off the deluded victim from her husband,—from her child,—from her character,—from her happiness,—as if not intent to leave his crime confined to its miserable aggravations, unless he gave it a cast and colour of factitious sacrilege and impiety."********—"He paraded his despicable prize in his own carriage, with his own retinue, his own servants,—this veteran Paris hawked his enamoured Helen from this Western quarter of the Island to a sea-port in the Eastern, crowned with the acclamations of a senseless and grinning rabble, glorying and delighted, no doubt, in the leering and scoffing admiration of grooms and ostlers and waiters, as he passed,"*********
"It seems, Gentlemen," (continued the Advocate) "and indeed you have been told, that long as the course of his gallantry has been,—and he has grown grey in the service,—it is the first instance he has been called upon for damages. To how many might it have been fortunate, if

he had not that impunity to boast? Your verdict will, I trust, put an end to that encouragement in guilt that is built upon impunity. The Devil, it seems, has saved the Noble Marquis harmless in the past; but your verdict will tell him the term of that indemnity is expired,—that his old friend and banker has no more effects in his hands,—and that if he draws any more upon him, he must pay his own bills himself. You will do much good by doing so: you may not enlighten his conscience nor touch his heart; but his *frugality* will understand the hint. It will adopt the precedence of age, and deter him from pursuits, in which, though he may be insensible of shame, he will not be regardless of expence. You will do more: you will not only punish him in his tender part, but you will weaken him in his strong one,—his money."—Can this be the man whom the Prince Regent has selected for his Household Service?

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE TRIUMPH OF THE WHALE.

Io! Pæan! Io! sing
To the finny people's King.
Not a mightier Whale than this
In the vast Atlantic is;
Not a fatter fish than he
Flounders round the polar sea.
See his blubber—at his gills
What a world of drink he swills,
From his trunk as from a spout
Which next moment he pours out.
Such his person—next declare,
Muse, who his companions are.
Every fish of generous kind
Scuds aside or slinks behind;
But about his presence keep
All the Monsters of the deep;
Mermaids with their tails and singing
His delighted fancy stinging;
Crooked Dolphins they surround him;
Dog-like Seals they fawn around him,
Following hard the progress mark
Of the intolerant salt sea Shark;
For his solace and relief
Flat-fish are his courtiers chief;
Last and lowest in his train
Ink-fish (libellers of the main)
Their black liquor shed in spite
(Such on earth *the things that write.*)
In his stomach some do say
No good thing can ever stay;
Had it been the fortune of it
To have swallow'd that old Prophet,
Three days there he'd not have dwelled,
But in one have been expelled.
Hapless mariners are they,
Who beguil'd (as seamen say)
Deeming him some rock or island,
Footing sure, safe spot, and dry land,
Anchor in his scaly rind;
Soon the difference they find;
Sudden plumb he sinks beneath them;
Does to ruthless waves bequeath them.
Name or title, what has he?
Is he Regent of the Sea?
From this difficulty free us,
Buffon, Banks, or sage Linnæus.
With his wond'rous attributes
Say what appellation suits?
By his bulk and by his size,
By his oily qualities,
This (or else my eyesight fails),
This should be the Prince of Whales.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

25. *Sampson breaking his Bonds.* J. F. Rigaud, R. A.—The expression of countenance and movements of limb, consequent on the sudden information of Dalilah, "the Philistines be upon thee, Sampson," are strongly conceived; and it excites our surprize, that the artist, capable of such just action and expression, should have so erroneous an eye for colour. Instead of the bright hue of health and manly beauty, the face and figure of Sampson are suffused with so fierce a yellow, that if it was not for his animated countenance and action, we should take Sampson to be the representation of a man in the worst stage of a jaundice.

18, *The Detection*, L. Cossé, represents with no inconsiderable feeling for character, a cobbler's wife rating her daughter whom she has just detected in writing a love letter, which the father is reading, while a boy points at his abashed and weeping sister, with malicious satisfaction. There is so much display of nature as it regards the attitudes and countenances of these figures, as well as in 21, *the Welch Harper*, and the objects are touched off with such a degree of exactness in the detail, that it is to be regretted that Mr. Cossé is not a little more attentive to his Perspective and Colouring.

80. *Cupid blowing Bubbles.* J. Pocock.—Though this is by no means a new, it is a significant emblem of the delusive enchantments of Love, a passion of which Rochefoucault says, "those who are first cured, are best cured;" and Gay still more severely, "in love we are all fools alike."—Its fickleness Mr. Pocock has denoted by the equally common but expressive symbols of flowers and a butterfly perched in Cupid's bow. He has been duly attentive to the grace of action and beauty of form which so peculiarly belong to the infant God of Love, though his countenance is too sedate for one so playfully and sarcastically engaged.—It ought to smile with roguish archness at the fallacies, the short-lived and often mischievous fallacies, he is creating. The carnations are natural and delicate, the colouring and general effect altogether rich and harmonious, and highly creditable to Mr. Pocock's taste.

MR. BURNETT'S PRINT OF THE BLIND FIDDLER.

Of the novelties that have for a considerable time past appeared in British Art, one of the most pleasing is the Engraving from Wilkie's very masterly Picture of *the Blind Fiddler*. Except some specimens of Humour in small Book Prints from able Designs by Mr. Stothard and Mr. Smirke, and two of similar size from the pencil of Mr. Wilkie, there has been no Humourous Engraving of merit since the time of Hogarth, and none of large dimensions that expressly display facetious and other circumstances

of Vulgar Life, as depicted by the Dutch Masters. It is indeed a new feature of native Art, exhibited by Mr. Burnett with characteristic feeling and clearness. He has been alive to the main constituents of his admirable original, whose beauties we strongly recognize in the sentiment, drawing, touch, tone, and general spirit of the Engraving. He has been least successful in the sculpture of the flesh, the dark parts of which have no very agreeable line, and the light parts a too fine and hairy kind of dot. The direction of the line on the flesh he has also in parts mistaken. It wants the taste exhibited by Audran and Sir R. Strange, and of which Mr. Sharpe's late Print from A. Caracci is a beautiful specimen. In many parts his outline is hard, especially where the lights are strongly relieved by shadows: there the shadows are marked with heaviness, and are deficient in touch and clearness. A masterly energy, however, mostly pervades the work, and recommends it to the praise and possession of the tasteful.

R. H.

THE REGENT.

TO THE EXAMINER NOOSEPAPER.

Zur,—As I be told that you be a very grate man in Lunnun, an liks to here of all sorts of grevances, I has made up my minde to let you no of a very sheameful pese of biznis with rispeckt to one of our ships, witch I am much afeard is lost. You no my breother Jack, Zur, he bese a saler, an told I all about it;—but, Zur, he bese so very hignorant, that he cant rite nor rede, an so, Zur, as I be the honly one of the vamilly that has bin well heddicated, I am forced to be the riter of this here letter. The ship, Zur, I mene, is called the *Regent*; and Jack tells I, that he be sure it was wel bilt, for that Charley Vox, Ned Berk, Tom Granvil, an menny of the *best* shiprites in the country, had a hand in vhishing her: to be sure, says Jack, there was a littel *wekenes* once or twise found hout towards the *hed*, but then, Zur, there was an old caulker named *Time*, who was expected to kure all that.

Now, Zur, the *voreman* of the dok yard were alwase afeard of this ship being *larnched*, an contrived to keep on from saling for a hole twelmonth; an Jack says, that the old bilders used to be aboard almost every day, and menny of em looked with a longin i at the *elm*. At length, Zur, she was hoblig'd to sale, for an old man of war, called the *George*, bein so very mutch hout of horder as to defie the voreman's skill at a *refit*, a substetute bekame habsolutely necessaric; well, Zur, no soner was it nown that she was to sale with an hopen comishun, than the ies of all was upon her, and menny exspected her first voige wood be to a sertin Irish port, ware menny vine ships ware convened; an their, by destroying the little pour witch remained to one *Intolerance*, who commanded their, to restore these vessels to the servis of their countrie: but this did not turn out the kase; an now, Zur, cums the rogery of the *voreman*; for to the grate surprise of everie boddy, he was pinted to the commarnd; the reson of this noboddy noes; but Jack has told me, Zur, that this here voreman had for the larst twelmouth suplide the ship with menny valuble *stores*, witch he had contriv'd to smuggle from the *publick warehouses*, an so got a kind of *share* in her. Be this as it may, he went abord without *bein at all ashearned*, and axed some of the old bilders to jine him; but the refusin, he as bin sadlie put to for men; but the grate *bountie* he offer'd at larst temted some *desarters* from the old *George* to enlist, an with these he has put to see: but, Zur, Jack as just herd that the ship was latly sene to have passed the strates of *serprise*, and got into the see of *popular discontent*: that the wind blew hard from the *north*, an she was hastiley driving under bare *poles* towards the roks of *apostacy* an *corruption*, ware it was fear'd she wood soon strike.

In the mene time, Zur, the voreman wood not let the old *crazie* George to be lade by, but *converted* her into a *hospittle* ship, and so contrived that all the *crew* shoul receive the *same pay* as before; an as her riggin was damag'd, he introduced *severel* new *blocks*, witch Jack says ar *very dere*, an *of no sarvis at all*. I thort it rite to let you no all these things, and if anie thing els shood cum to my hears, you may depend on my sendin you word: so no more, Zur, at pressent, from your moast dootifool and respective survent,

March 5, 1812. HUMPHREY HONNAIL.

THE REV. DR. POVAH.

Mr. Examiner,—I have deferred for some time offering any observations on the case of this Gentleman, in expectation that you would have taken it more fully up than was done in the short note which appeared in the *Examiner* about two weeks ago. The justice of the decision I am not prepared to question, as I am little acquainted with the usages and precedents of Courts; but every man of moderate understanding, who read the account of the trial in the public papers, must have been surprised at a decision seemingly so inconsistent with common sense. Is it possible to conceive, that, in these enlightened times, any man, even a Bishop, should have the hardihood to advance his *ipse dixit* in opposition to common sense, or rather common decency!: I had expected that the days of *infallibility* were past for ever, and that Bishops were to be considered nearly in the same light as other men; but I now perceive that we expect a return of the "*good olden times.*" The three charges against Dr. Povah were satisfactorily obviated by Mr. Brougham, with his usual ability; and what were the arguments adduced by the Bishop to substantiate his objections? Why, that he conscientiously believed that Dr. Povah was not a proper person for officiating as a Clergyman of the Church of England. Far be it from me to suppose that his Lordship was actuated by any other motives than those of conscience, or that he was influenced either by domestic or political considerations; but this is not the ground of my objection. Why invest the power of admitting or rejecting a clergyman, in one individual? Why make one man a judge of the talents and principles of another, whom he has scarcely ever seen? Bishops, I presume, have the same feelings and prejudices, aye, and the same political animosity, with other men. Dr. Povah and his Lordship are completely unknown to me, even by sight; and if we are allowed to judge of characters from what is before the public, the Rev. Bishop has very little room to boast of his own attainments, after the ungrammatical and illiberal Charge he published some time ago, addressed to the Clergy of his diocese.

Much of late has been said against Dissenters, and the clamours raised against the Established Church; but let its principal members avoid giving grounds for secession and clamours. When I see men raised to the highest honours in the Church, not on account of their talents, but their

political influence and the support they can yield their patrons,—when a man, although possessed of the greatest moral and intellectual endowments, is liable to rejection probably on the score of politics,—I can scarcely wonder at the almost universal clamour raised against the Establishment. Many of the higher order of clergy are men of eminent endowments, and have been raised to their present rank by their talents; but as many others seem eminent only for their good livings, like a certain Alderman mentioned in the *Citizen of the World*, distinguished only for his splendid monument in Westminster Abbey. Let the higher orders of the Clergy renounce their bigotry, their prejudices, and their persecuting spirit, and we shall then hear less of Methodists and Dissenters; and let the heads of the Colleges, instead of seriously considering the necessity of an additional tassel to their caps, endeavour to infuse into the minds of the Candidates for Holy Orders a spirit of candour and liberality.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, JONATHAN ROUNDHEAD.

PROSECUTION OF D. I. EATON.

MR. EDITOR,—I should be very sorry for any one to suppose for a moment that I would give the least countenance to the cause of Deism. I am a *Christian*, and not one whose opinions may be supposed even to approach towards infidelity, but a firm adherent to the principles of our National Church, in which I hope to live and die. Having premised thus much, I trust, Sir, that I shall not appear instigated by prejudice in the few remarks, for which I now crave a corner in your paper.

The Law Reports of the past week contain the trial of Mr. D. I. Eaton, the bookseller, for publishing a book, purporting to be the third part of *Paine's Age of Reason*. As for the sentiments contained in that work, from the specimens I have seen, I utterly abhor them; they undermine my best hopes without offering me any substitute. But I am very much in doubt whether the cause of Christianity will gain ground by these prosecutions. *Humanum est errare*; and if we deem a man in the wrong, let us pity him, and persuade him, and pray for him; but let us not *punish* him. This is too much like calling for fire from heaven to consume our adversaries, which our blessed Lord so strongly reproved. If our religion will not stand its ground without force to protect it, let it fall. But, thank God, it is not so feeble. It needs not the cruel auxiliaries of Paganism, Mahometanism, and Popery. It can produce argument for argument, and reason for reason, and this is sufficient. *Magna est veritas et prevalibit*. Let us lay aside the sword and the mace when we enter into the conflict with infidels, and fight only under the expressive banner of the Cross. *In hoc signo vinces*. What will Deists say to such prosecutions? Will they not be apt to mix the policy of the Government with the religion which it thus defends, and accuse us of using force, because we have no arguments? The Kingdom of Christ, Sir, is not of this world, and requires no such defence. Happily Christianity has many advocates in our land, who are amply qualified to vindicate its truths; and we are even indebted to Paine as the remote cause for the many able defences which have recently enriched our libraries, provoked by his wanton attacks upon our faith.

But it may be asked, is it to be endured that Divine Truth should thus be ridiculed, and the arm of the law forbear to revenge? Shall such blasphemies be broached, and the blasphemer meet with no punishment?—Leave him in the hands of God. What authority has *Christ* given to man to punish his fellow man for religion? We blame the Catholics for this crime; we proscribe them from equal rights in society, because we fear that they will renew their persecutions of the Protestants, and yet we ourselves exhibit the very same folly in assailing infidelity! I am taught, Sir, by the glorious founder of Christianity, "Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you." *I* should not like to be persecuted or prosecuted for my religious opinions—why then should I do so to others? We may raise enemies to Christianity by this conduct, but never gain friends.

The Attorney-General justified the prosecution, because he considered such publications as endangering the *national* religion. I conceive that this argument will go to prove much more than he would wish, and upon this principle must condemn him and every friend to the Bible Society, now patronized by the most distinguished and noble characters in the country; for what other design can they have in view than to undermine and destroy the principles of Paganism, Mahometanism, and Popery, and thus by the circulation of a book which they consider as decidedly striking at those false religions, endeavouring to subvert the *established religions* of half the nations of the world.

As for the other principal plea used by the Learned Prosecutor, that the dissemination of such sentiments has a tendency to violate all good faith amongst us, by destroying the validity of an oath, I cannot admit it, unless we could suppose that all men, on reading infidel books, would become infidels. Things would just stand as they are. And, by the bye, I think that various evils arise from the present mode of administering an oath on the New Testament; for, when we consider on how many trifling occasions that sacred book is brought forward, it has a tendency rather to weaken than increase our reverence for it. Nor can we suppose that in any country, calling itself free, there would not be a variety of dissenters from any prevailing religion, and consequently there must be Deists in a free Christian land; how absurd then to require men, indiscriminately, to swear upon a book which *they do not believe!* Would it not answer every purpose, and impress a greater awe upon the mind, if every man were to lay his hand upon his breast, and swear as in the presence of the *Omniscient God?*

On the whole, Sir, I think that if the *Age of Reason* were circulated, and were worth reading, it would ultimately do more good than harm, by exciting a spirit of inquiry, and leading to a conviction of the truth: but if the third is like the former parts, had it not been prosecuted, it would have died away in its own insignificancy. No sensible man would ever be persuaded to reject Christianity, merely by the use of ridiculous puns or scurrilous epithets. It is true, many ignorant persons were deluded by the influence of the former volumes; but when the tempest which they excited in the mind was over, we found in most instances that it returned to Christianity, as to its peaceable channel in its calm; and had the case been the contrary, we are not justified in using violence to promote the cause of truth.—If these desultory remarks should lead to the abolition of one penal law on religion, I should think that I had done more in its cause than all the pleadings of all the Attorney-Generals in all the religious prosecu-

tions that ever came into our Courts of Justice.—I am, Sir, your's,

A Friend to Free Inquiry,
Though a determined Enemy to Infidelity.

March 10, 1812.

Sir,—It appears to me that an interest has been excited in the minds of many persons by the late trial of Mr. Eaton, for publishing the third part of *Paine's Age of Reason*, which the subject itself never deserved, and has called forth the unqualified anathemas of those who, till now, reposed in perfect security. Many of the Dissenters, tenacious upon all occasions, and very properly so, of maintaining the right of private judgment, seem, in this instance, to forget the duty of extending the same liberty to others, and, as far as I can perceive, are pretty liberal in their abuse of this man; but they do not consider that by saying so much on the subject they only keep it more clearly in our remembrance, and that his cause would perhaps never have met with any support or notice whatever, if he had not been dragged forth to public investigation. I much doubt if a prosecution of this kind answers the end which is intended. It is an old maxim, but nevertheless true throughout, that "the *appearance only* of persecution will raise opposition," and even amongst those who, at another time, would most condemn the sentiments intended to be suppressed by it.

You will perhaps hardly credit me, that only on Sunday last the Minister of a dissenting place of worship, in the heart of this metropolis, made use of the following words, in allusion to this trial, and before a large congregation,—"The man who murdered the Shadwell family was *innocent*, was an *angel*, compared to him who would brand the Scriptures with falsehood."

Unless, Sir, we are to rob words of their meaning, I cannot conceive of a more uncharitable, not to say absurd declaration;—it is simply this, that the monster Williams, the disgrace of his species, would, for *his* crimes, *almost escape* condemnation, if Eaton, for his disbelief in the Divine authority of the Scripture, was *only* to be *eternally punished!*—This is a strictly fair interpretation: for, if their *guilt* is to be considered as *infinitely* distant, the same *infinite difference* must be preserved in their punishment.

The present generation is, in my opinion, too much enlightened to believe, *even if they are told, that those only can* do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with their God, who admit the infallibility and the divine inspiration of the Old and New Testament,—the birth, miracles, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is impossible to think that the exercise of morality is inconsistent with, or *not* enjoined by, any other religion than that professed by Christians. If we consider the immense majority of human beings educated in different principles, who reject the Bible *wholly*, as being at least untrue, even of those who most enjoy every advantage of reading it; and if in addition to this, we perceive many of them to be persons of good intentions and actions, possessing the firmest hope of future happiness, can we believe it to be *impossible* that one who has been educated in the Christian religion may conscientiously deny it, and still continue to maintain a good moral character; and can we be surprized that he should desire to make converts of others?

I do not find that Mr. E. in his defence made use of language disrespectful to the Deity; indeed, as far as I can ascertain, it was much the reverse; that he seemed also to be sensibly impressed with the truth of what he said, and desirous of convincing those whom he addressed. The fear of punishment did not appear to deter him from speaking his mind in a way he conceived to be right. The *non-performance* of the moral duties was *not* endeavoured to be enforced by him, nor did he utter one sentiment which could, with persons having a grain of understanding, operate to the injury of society. May we not therefore *be content* to call him an enthusiast, a misled man, an ignorant man, let us even call him '*an ungrateful man*' '*who has deserted his friends when he may most stand in need of them*;' but for our own sake, let us refrain from treating him harshly, because he exercises opinions, for the correctness of which he is finally answerable to God alone.

Let us also take care that we do not by too *forced* a suppression of this man's arguments, appear to shrink from their examination; even if they are without foundation, opposition will but make them popular, and if plausible, they cannot fail 'with many,' to be convincing, unless allowed to be fairly sifted and exposed.

In striving to make people think rightly, let us not throw a single obstacle in the way of free inquiry; and, at a time when most persons seem disposed to enlighten the mind, as well as mend the temporal condition of their fellow creatures, let *nothing* be done that shall even indirectly operate to control our freedom of thought, which though, perhaps, occasionally incumbered with excrescences, is far better to be exercised than that opinion, which is only enjoyed by stealth, or kept within *legal* bounds by a chain of *no defined* weight.

Each religious sect is, at present, most industriously spreading their own principles, and, in the clash of all, we may daily expect new truths. If *one religion only* could *ensure* eternal happiness, it would long ago have been revealed in a way which nobody could misunderstand or doubt; and let such a consideration determine us to be charitable to those, who *can*, conscientiously, refuse to believe in our sentiments, so long as their conduct does not infringe on the plain rules of morality.

T. H. S.

MARRIAGES.

On Thursday, the 5th inst. at St. Luke's, Chelsea, by the Rev. J. Armstrong, Henry Corbould, Esq. of John-street, Fitzroy-square, to Mary, only daughter of Thomas Pickles, Esq. of the above place.

On Tuesday last, at St. Leonard, Shoreditch, Mr. George Buckler, of Finsbury-square, to Miss Droney, of the City Road.

On Tuesday, at the house of John Spalding, Esq. Hill-street, Captain Graham Moore, of his Majesty's navy, brother of the late Sir John Moore, to Dora, daughter of the late Thomas Eden, Esq. of Wimbledon, and niece to the Right Hon. Lord Auckland.

DEATHS.

On Wednesday morning, at his house on Hammersmith Terrace, P. J. De Loutherbourgh, Esq. at a very advanced age.—Mr. De Loutherbourgh was a native of Switzerland, but had been upwards of 40 years in this country.

On Wednesday last, after a short but severe illness, Mr. Samuel Elmes, of College-hill, much regretted by his family and friends.

On Friday morning, the Earl of Uxbridge.

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THE EXAMINER.

No. 221 SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1812

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 215.

THE PRINCE ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

THE PRINCE REGENT is still in every body's mouth, and unless he is as insensible to biting as to bantering, a delicious time he has of it in that remorseless ubiquity! If a person takes in a newspaper, the first thing he does, when he looks at it, is to give the old groan and say, "Well,—what of the PRINCE REGENT now!" If he goes out after breakfast, the first friend he meets is sure to begin talking about the PRINCE REGENT;—and the two always separate with a shrug. He who is lounging along the street, will take your arm and turn back with you to expatiate on the PRINCE REGENT; and he in a hurry, who is skimming the other side of the way, halloes out as he goes, "Fine doings these, of the PRINCE REGENT!" You can scarcely pass by two people walking together, but you shall hear the words "PRINCE REGENT;"—"if the PRINCE REGENT has done that, he must be—," or such as the PRINCE REGENT and Lord YAR—:"—the rest escapes in the distance. At dinner the PRINCE REGENT quite eclipses the goose or the calf's-head: the tea-table, of course, rings of the PRINCE REGENT: if the company go to the theatre to see the *Hypocrite*, or the new farce of *Turn Out*, they cannot help thinking of the PRINCE REGENT; and as Dean SWIFT extracted philosophical meditation from a Broomstick, so it would not be surprising if any serious person in going to bed should find in his very nightcap something to remind him of the merits of the PRINCE REGENT. In short, there is no other subject but one that can at all pretend to a place in the attention of our countrymen, and that is their old topic the weather; their whole sympathies are at present divided between the PRINCE REGENT and the barometer;—

> Nocte pluit totâ: redeunt spectacula manè;—
> Divisum imperium cum JOVE CÆSAR habet.
>
> VIRGIL.

> All night the weeping tempests blow;
> All day our state surpasseth shew;—
> Doubtless a blessed empire share
> The PRINCE OF WALES and PRINCE OF AIR.

But the Ministerial Journalists, and other creatures of Government, will tell you, that there is nothing in all this; or rather they will insist that it is to be taken in a good sense, and that the universal talk respecting the PRINCE REGENT is highly to his advantage: for it is to be remarked, that these gentleman have a pleasant way of proving to us that we have neither eyes nor ears; and would willingly persuade us in time, that to call a man an idiot or a profligate is subscribing to his wisdom and virtue;—a logic, by the bye, which enables us to discover how it is they turn their own reputation to account, and contrive to have so good an opinion of themselves. Thus whenever they perceive an obnoxious sensation excited among the people by particular measures, they always affect to confine it to the organs by which it is expressed, and to cry out against what they are pleased to term "a few factious individuals," who are represented as a crafty set of fellows, that get their living by contradicting and disgusting every body else!—How such a trade can be thriving, we are not informed: it is certainly a very different one from their own, which however it may disgust other people, succeeds by echoing and flattering the opinions of men in power. It is in vain that you refer them to human nature and to the opinions that are naturally created by profligate rulers; they are not acquainted with human nature, and still less with any such rulers:—it is in vain that you refer them to companies in which impartial and independent men are accustomed to meet;—they know no such companies:—it is in vain that you refer them to popular meetings, to common-halls, and to political dinners;—they call the popular meetings unpopular, and can bring counter-dinners and common-halls of their own. Be it so then;—let us compound with them, and agree to consider all direct political meetings as party assemblages, particularly those of the Reformists, who, whatever room they may occupy on the occasion, and whatever advocates they may possess from one end of the kingdom to the other, shall be nothing but a few factious individuals, as contemptible for their numbers and public effect as for their bad writing and worse principles. Nay, let us even resort on this occasion to persons, who having but one great political object, unconnected with the abstract merits of party, persisted for so many years in expressing an ardent and hopeful attachment to the PRINCE REGENT, and in positively shutting their eyes to such parts of his character as might have shaken their dependence upon him, looking only to his succession in the government as the day of their country's happiness, and caring not who should surround his throne provided he would only be true to his own word. An assembly of such persons,—such at least was their composition for the much greater part,—met the other day at the Freemasons' Tavern to celebrate the Irish Anniversary of Saint Patrick; and I shall proceed to extract from the *Morning Chronicle* such passages of what passed on the occasion as apply to his ROYAL HIGHNESS, in order that the Reader may see at once what is now thought of him, not by Whigs or Pittites, or any other party of the state, but by the fondest and most trusting of his fellow-subjects,—by those whose hearts have danced at his name,—who have

caught from it inspiration to their poetry, patience to their afflictions, and hope to their patriotism.—

"The Anniversary of this day—a day always precious in the estimation of an Irishman, was celebrated yesterday at the Freemasons' Tavern, by a numerous and highly respectable assemblage of individuals. The Marquis of Lansdown presided at the Meeting, supported by the Marquis of Downshire, the Earl of Moira, Mr. Sheridan, the Lord Mayor, Mr. Sheriff Heygate, &c. &c. When the cloth was removed, *Non nobis Domine* was sung, after which the Marquis of Lansdown, premising that the Meeting was assembled for purposes of charity rather than of party or political feeling, gave the Health of the King, which was drunk with enthusiastic and rapturous applause. This was followed by *God save the King*, and then the Noble Marquis gave 'The Health of the Prince Regent,' which was drunk with partial applause and *loud and reiterated hisses*. The next toast, which called forth great and continued applause, lasting nearly five minutes, was 'The Navy and Army.'"

The interests of the Charity were then considered, and after a procession of the children (a sight worth all the gaudiness and hollow flourish of military and courtly pomps) a very handsome collection was made from the persons present. Upon this, the toasts were resumed; and "Lord Moira's health being drank with loud and reiterated cheering," his Lordship made a speech in which *not a word was uttered of the Regent*.—Here let the reader pause a moment, and consider what a quantity of meaning must be wrapped up in the silence of such a man with regard to his old companion and Prince. Lord Moira universally bears the character of a man who is generous to a fault; he is even said to be almost unacquainted with the language of denial or rebuke, and if this part of his character has been injurious to him, it has at least, with his past and his present experience, helped him to a thorough knowledge of the Prince's character. Yet this nobleman, so generous, so kindly affectioned, so well experienced, —even he has nothing to say in favour of his old acquaintance. The Prince has had obligations from him, and therefore his Lordship feels himself bound in gentlemanly feeling to say nothing in his disparagement; and in spite of the additional tenderness which that very circumstance would give him for the better side of his Royal Highness's character, he feels himself bound in honesty to say nothing in his praise,—not a word—not a syllable!—No more need be observed on this point.—His Lordship concluded with proposing the health of the Marquis of Lansdowne, who upon receiving the applauses of the company expressed himself "deeply sensible of such an honour, coming from men whose national character it was to be generously warm in their praise, but not more generously warm than faithfully sincere." This elegant compliment was justly received, and told more perhaps than every body imagined; for those who are "faithfully sincere" in their praise are apt to be equally so in their censure, and thus the hisses bestowed were put on an equal footing of sincerity with the applauses. The healths of the Vice-Presidents was then given, and after a short speech from Lord Mountjoy, and much *anticipating* clamour with "Mr. Sheridan's health," "Mr. Sheridan *at length* arose, and in a low tone of voice returned his thanks for the honourable notice by which so large a meeting of his countrymen thought proper to distinguish him. (*Applauses.*) He had ever been proud of Ireland, and hoped that his country might never have cause to be ashamed of him. (*Applauses.*) Ireland never forgot those who did all they could do, however little that might be, in behalf of her best interests. All allusion to politics had been industriously deprecated by their Noble Chairman.—He was aware that charity was the immediate object of their meeting; but standing as he did before an assembly of his countrymen, he could not affect to disguise his conviction that at the present crisis Ireland involved in itself every consideration dear to the best interests of the empire. (*Hear, hear!*). It was, therefore, that he was most anxious that nothing should transpire in that meeting calculated to injure those great objects, or to visit with undeserved censure the conduct of persons whose love to Ireland was as cordial and zealous as it ever had been. He confessed frankly that knowing as he did the unaltered and unalterable sentiments of an Illustrious Personage towards Ireland, he could not conceal from the meeting that he had felt considerably shocked at the *sulky coldness* and *surly discontent* with which they had on that evening drank the health of the Prince Regent. (Here we were sorry to observe that Mr. S. was interrupted by *no very equivocal* symptoms of disapprobation)—When silence was somewhat restored, Mr. Sheridan said, that he *knew the Prince Regent well*—(*hisses*)—he knew his *principles*—(*hisses,*)—they would at least, he hoped, give him credit for believing that he knew them, when he said he did.—(*Applause.*)—He repeated, that he knew well the principles of the Prince Regent, and that so well satisfied was he that they were all that Ireland could wish, that he (Mr. Sheridan) hoped, that as he had lived up to them, so he might die in the principles of the Prince Regent—(*hisses and applauses.*)—He should be sorry personally to have merited their disapprobation (*general applause*, with cries of "Change the subject and speak out.") —He could only assure them, that the Prince Regent remained unchangeably true to those principles. (*Here the clamours became so loud and general that we could collect nothing more.*)"

Although the company however refused to give a quiet hearing to Mr. Sheridan while he talked in this manner, yet the moment he sat down, they rose up, it seems, and as a mark that they were not personally offended, gave him a general clap:—the *Chronicle* says, it was "to mark their peculiar respect and esteem for him;" and as the rest of the above report is taken from that paper, it is fit that this encomiastic assertion should accompany it; but however the reporter might chuse to interpret the applause, there appears to be no reason for giving it a livelier construction than the one before-mentioned. We know well enough what the Irish think of Mr. Sheridan. They believe he has been, and is, their friend; and on that account their gratitude will always endeavour to regard him as complacently as possible, and to separate what his masters can do from what he himself cannot:—it even prevents them perhaps from discerning the harm which a man of his lax turn of thinking, in countenancing the loose principles of another, may have done to the cause which he hoped to assist:—but they are not blind to his defects in general any more than the English, and after the terrible example that has been furnished us of the bad effects of those principles, "peculiar respect and esteem" are words not to be prostituted to every occasion of convivial good

temper: it is too late to let a contingent and partial goodwill exaggerate in this manner, and throw away the panegyrics that belong to first-rate worthiness.

But to return to the immediate subject. Here is an assembly of Irishmen, respectable for their rank and benevolence, and desirous for years of thinking well of the Prince of Wales, absolutely loading with contempt the very mention of his "principles," and shutting their ears against a repetition of the word,—so great is their disdain and their indignation. Principles! How are we to judge of principles but by conduct? And what, in the name of common sense, does Mr. Sheridan mean by saying that the Prince adheres to his principles? Was it a principle then in his Royal Highness not to adhere to his professions and promises? And is it in keeping to such a principle, that Mr. Sheridan informs us and "the public in general" that he means to live and die in the principles of his Master? What did Lord Moira, the Marquis Lansdowne, or the Duke of Devonshire, say to these praises? Did they anticipate or echo them? No: *they kept a dead silence*; and for this conscientiousness they are reproved by the ministerial papers, which pathetically tell us how good his Royal Highness had been to the Charity, and what a shame it was to mingle political feelings with the object of such a meeting! Political candour, they mean: had it been political flattery, they would not have cared what had been said of the Prince Regent, nor how many foreign questions had been discussed. It might have been proper in the meeting, had it been possible, to distinguish between the Prince of Wales as a subscriber to the Irish Charity and the Prince Regent as a clencher of Irish chains; but when the health of such a Personage is proposed to such a meeting, political considerations are notoriously supposed to be implied in the manner of its reception, and had the reception been favourable, the ministerialists would have been as eager to take advantage of it as they now are to take umbrage. So much for the inevitable disclosure of truth, in one way or another; and thus has the very first utterance of the public opinion, vivâ voce, been loud and unequivocal in rebuke of the Prince Regent.

It is impossible however, before the present article is closed, to resist an observation or two on the saddest of these Ministerial papers. Our readers are aware that the *Morning Post*, above all its rivals, has a faculty of carrying its nonsense to a pitch, that becomes amusing in spite of itself, and affords a relief to one's feelings in the very excess of its inflictions. Its paper of Thursday last, in answer to a real or pretended correspondent, contained the following paragraph:—"The publication of the Article of a Friend, relative to the ungenerous, unmanly conduct, displayed at a late public meeting, though evidently well meant, would only serve to give consequence to a set of worthless beings, whose imbecile efforts are best treated with sovereign contempt." *Worthless beings* and *sovereign contempt!* Who would not suppose that some lofty and exemplary character was here speaking of a set of informers and profligates? One, at any rate, whose notice was an honour, and whose silent disdain would keep the noisiest of us in obscurity? Yet this is the paper, notorious above all others, in the annals of perfidy, scandal, imbecility, and indecency,—the paper which has gone directly from one side to another, which has levied contributions upon this very Prince, which has become a bye-word for its cant and bad writing, and which has rioted in a doggrel, an adulation, and a ribaldry, that none but the most prostituted pens would consent to use,—the paper, in short, of the Stuarts, the Benjafields, the Byrnes, and the Rosa Matildas! And this delicious compound is to "give consequence" to a Society, consisting of the most respectable Irishmen in London, with rank and talent at their head!—Help us, benevolent Compositors, to some mark or other,—some significant and comprehensive index,—that shall denote a laugh of an hour's duration!—If any one of our readers should not be so well acquainted as another with the taste and principles of this bewitching *Post*, he may be curious to see what notions of praise and political justice are entertained by the persons whose contempt is so overwhelming. He shall have a specimen; and when he is reading it, let him lament, in the midst of his laughter, that a paper, capable of such sickening adulation, should have the power of finding its way to the table of an English Prince, and of helping to endanger the country by polluting the sources of its government. The same page, which contained the specimen of contempt above-mentioned, contained also a set of wretched common-place lines in French, Italian, Spanish, and English, *literally* addressing the Prince Regent in the following terms, among others:—"You are the *glory of the People*—You are the *Protector of the Arts*—You are the *Mecænas of the Age*—Wherever you appear, you *conquer all hearts*, wipe away tears, excite *desire and love*, and win *beauty* towards you—You breathe *eloquence*—You inspire the Graces—You are an *Adonis in loveliness!* Thus gifted,"—it proceeds in English,

> "Thus gifted with each grace of mind,
> "Born to delight and bless mankind;
> "Wisdom, with Pleasure in her train,
> "Great Prince! shall signalize thy reign:—
> "To Honour, Virtue, Truth, allied—
> "The Nation's safeguard and its pride;
> "With Monarchs of immortal fame
> "Shall bright Renown enrol thy Name."

What person, unacquainted with the true state of the case, would imagine, in reading these astounding eulogies, that this *Glory of the People* was the subject of millions of shrugs and reproaches! That this *Protector of the Arts* had named a wretched Foreigner his Historical Painter in disparagement or in ignorance of the merits of his own countrymen! That this *Mecænas of the Age* patronized not a single deserving writer! That this *Breather of Eloquence* could not say a few decent, extempore words,—if we are to judge at least from what he said to his regiment on its embarkation for Portugal! That this *Conqueror of Hearts* was the disappointer of hopes! That this *Exciter of Desire* (bravo, Messieurs of the *Post!*) this *Adonis in Loveliness*, was a corpulent gentleman of fifty! In short, that this *delightful*, *blissful*, *wise*, *pleasurable*, *honourable*, *virtuous*, *true*, and *immortal* Prince, was a violator of his word, a libertine over head and ears in debt and disgrace, a despiser of domestic ties, the companion of gamblers and demireps, a man who has just closed half a century without one single claim on the gratitude of his country or the respect of posterity!

These are hard truths; but are they *not* truths? And have we not suffered enough;—are we not now suffering bitterly,—from the disgusting flatteries, of which the above is a repetition? The ministers may talk of the shocking boldness of the press, and may throw out their wretched warnings

about interviews between Mr. PERCEVAL and Sir VICARY GIBBS; but let us inform them, that such vices as have just been enumerated are shocking to all Englishmen who have a just sense of the state of Europe; and that he is a bolder man, who, in times like the present, dares to afford reason for the description. Would to GOD, the *Examiner* could ascertain that difficult, and perhaps undiscoverable point, which enables a public writer to keep clear of an appearance of the love of scandal while he is hunting out the vices of those in power! Then should one paper, at least, in this metropolis help to rescue the nation from the charge of silently encouraging what it must publicly rue; and the SARDANAPALUS who is now afraid of none but informers, be taught to shake, in the midst of his minions, in the very drunkenness of his heart, at the voice of honesty. But if this be impossible, still there is one benefit which truth may derive from adulation,—one benefit, which is favourable to the former in proportion to the grossness of the latter, and of which none of his flatterers seem to be aware,—the opportunity of contradicting it's assertions. Let us never forget this advantage, which adulation cannot help giving us; and let such of our readers, as are inclined to deal insincerely with the Great from a false notion of policy and of knowledge of the world, take warning from what they now see of the miserable effects of courtly disguise, paltering, and profligacy. Flattery in any shape is unworthy a man and a gentleman; but political flattery is almost a request to be made slaves. If we would have the Great to be what they ought, we must find some means or other to speak of them as they are.

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PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ASSIZES.

KENT.—MAIDSTONE, MARCH 17.—*John Moore* was indicted for violating Charlotte Knill on the 26th of August last. The unfortunate girl, who was the victim of the prisoner's designs, was just turned of fifteen, the daughter of a respectable man, the bailiff of Mr. Larkin, who resides near Maidstone.—After stating her case, which was conclusive as to the fact, *Elizabeth Hosemere* deposed, that she came over Mailing Heath that evening and met the prisoner in company with two other men and a woman; the prisoner attempted to catch her hand as he passed; she eluded his aim, and she heard him d—n her as she passed. She then met Charlotte Knill, and had not long passed her before she heard a voice screaming "Murder!" and being very much terrified, she ran to an adjoining cottage to get assistance, but she found no person in it. She then met Knox and Field, and they went to rescue the girl. The two witnesses, Knox and Field, stated, that they went in search of the girl, and they listened, endeavouring to hear her screams, but they did not hear any for some time, and they had actually passed the place were the prisoner held her down, when on hearing a sudden scream of "Save me! save me!" they turned back. The prisoner immediately jumped over the hedge and ran away, but he left his hat behind him. They pursued him, and found him. The prisoner said, he believed the fact to have been committed by one of his companions, and that he saw him pursued, and lent him his own hat from friendship to him.—Verdict—*Guilty.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, March 12.

THE REGENT'S LETTER.

Lord BORINGDON rose to make a motion on the subject of his Royal Highness's Letter to the Duke of York. He said that he stood alone in this motion; but convinced, as he was, that the internal condition of the country was most perilous, he could not forbear entering on a question, which he conceived of vital importance.—The Noble Lord here entered upon the Prince Regent's conduct during the King's illness, &c. and then proceeded to notice his late Letter, expressing his wish that an united Administration should be formed, a wish of which his Lordship seemed heartily to approve.—His Lordship, after alluding to the dreadful condition of Ireland, the confirmed opposition of Ministers to the Catholic Claims, and the disturbances in various parts of this country, noticed the present state of the press, which he described as being divided into two parties; one side talking of an overweening, overbearing, ambitious aristocracy, and the other indulging in the most scurrilous language against the illustrious Personage at the head of the Government.—(*Hear, hear.*)—It was impossible, he thought, for the House to be indifferent to such a perilous state of things.—His Lordship finally moved,

"That an Humble Address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to assure his Royal Highness, that whilst we most deeply deplore the unhappy continuance of his Majesty's indisposition, we entirely rely upon his Royal Highness's wisdom and princely virtues, for the vigorous and beneficent exercise of those unrestricted powers with which he is now invested; and that his Royal Highness may depend upon our affectionate attachment, and our constant and zealous support in all his measures, for the maintenance of the honour of the nation abroad, and of its happiness and tranquillity at home.—Humbly to represent to his Royal Highness, that for the attainment of these objects, it appears to us to be essential that the administration, to which his Royal Highness may be graciously pleased to commit the management of his affairs, should be so composed as to unite, as far as possible, the confidence and good will of all classes of his Majesty's subjects.—That in the present state of Ireland, it is, in our opinion, impossible that such general confidence and good will should be enjoyed by any administration, the characteristic principle of whose domestic policy, as well as the bond of whose connection in office, is not only not to recommend, but to resist a fair and dispassionate consideration of those civil disabilities under which his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects, in that part of the United Kingdom, still labour; and of which they complain as most grievous and oppressive.—That we therefore humbly express our anxious hope, that his Royal Highness may yet be enabled to form an administration, which, by conciliating the affections of all descriptions of the community, may most effectually call forth the entire resources of the United Kingdom, and may afford to his Royal Highness additional means of conducting to a successful termination, a war, in which are involved the safety, honour, and prosperity of this Country."

Lord Viscount GRIMSTONE expressed his hope their Lordships would pause before they agreed to the motion of the Noble Lord. It was one which, he thought, should be met with a decided negative. It appeared to him to impute some degree of blame to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent for the measure in question.——

The Noble Viscount was proceeding, when Lord LAUDERDALE objected to the name of the Head of the Government being introduced in the debate, which must have the effect of biassing the House.—A conversation ensued, and the CHANCELLOR confessed his astonishment, when, on a late occasion, a Peer of that House read a letter from a newspaper, and then asked a Noble Friend of his, if that letter was actually from his Royal Master. Such a proceeding, to say the least of it, was most novel; and he would take the liberty to say, that if any man in his Royal Highness's Councils had given an answer to such a question, he (the Lord Chancellor) would never have entered the Council-room with that individual again. He was firmly persuaded———Here his Lordship was called to order, on the ground that he was wandering from the subject in question.—At length Lord GRIMSTONE proceeded, when he expatiated on the events which manifested

the energy of the existing administration; particularly the capture of the Mauritius and of Java, and the expulsion of the French from Portugal. Their efforts had been uniformly successful, and he was not one of those who could attribute uniform success to chance. Under those circumstances, and being persuaded that no wish was entertained in the country for a change of administration, he would move, as an amendment, to omit all the words in the Address, after the word "indisposition," for the purpose of substituting others which the Noble Lord read, and which were to the following effect:—

"We beg leave to express to his Royal Highness our grateful thanks, for the wisdom and prudence with which he has exercised the Royal authority; and to assure his Royal Highness that we have observed, with the greatest satisfaction, the success of his Majesty's arms during his Royal Highness's administration of that authority, and the beneficial consequences which have resulted from the assistance afforded by his Royal Highness to his Majesty's allies. We rely on his Royal Highness's promoting, by every means in his power, the interests and glory of the Country, and the happiness of the People entrusted to his charge."

Lord DARNLEY would not attempt to paint the dangers with which the country was threatened; but it was evident that all Europe was united under one head, and with one arm, against her, and for aught he knew, at that very moment the only power in the world which had hitherto been friendly to us, might have declared hostilities. All these evils were attributable to that very administration on which the Noble Mover of the amendment had thought proper to pronounce an eulogium. But it was not to our foreign relations alone that the attention of the House ought to be directed. Let them look also at home. He did not allude merely to the riots at Nottingham, however alarming, nor to the apprehended scarcity, which, he trusted, might be found not to exist, but to that most important consideration, the state of Ireland. He spoke only of his Royal Highness's advisers, and he maintained that they were deeply culpable who had advised his Royal Highness to write a letter, of which only a small portion of the evils that must be consequent on it had yet shewn themselves. The greatest of these was, the disappointment of the just hopes and expectations of the Catholics of Ireland. He said this because it was a notorious fact, that the person at the head of his Royal Highness's Government had founded his political importance on a system of intolerance, and on his declaration that he would never accede to the Catholic Claims. If the letter of his Royal Highness were at all intelligible, it assuredly meant to———

Lord LIVERPOOL spoke to order. The *supposed* letter was not a document before the House. It was not an act of State, or if an act of State, was not in such a situation that it could be commented upon in Parliament. As a private letter it could not be noticed.

Lord HOLLAND agreed with the Noble Earl that his Royal Highness's letter was not a document before the House. But where did the Noble Earl learn the doctrine that a Peer of Parliament must not allude to any paper that was not regularly before the House as a document? This was a monstrous proposition. As well might Noble Lords be interdicted from quoting from the Classics. Was Horace a document before the House? and was any Noble Lord to be prevented from citing passages from that Poet because the House knew nothing of him?—(*A laugh.*)—If the Noble Lord still contended that it was disorderly to allude to any paper, the existence of which was a matter of general notoriety, let him shew the Parliamentary order in which that prohibition is expressed.

Lord MULGRAVE supported the objections of his Noble Friend to the reference to a paper which was not a document before the House, which was not a paper of State, but which merely purported to be a private letter from his Royal Highness to his brother.

Lord ERSKINE expressed himself at a loss to conceive what breach of order had occurred in any reference to the Prince Regent's letter. No man entertained a greater respect for his Royal Highness than himself—no man would be more ready to accede to any wish that his Royal Highness might constitutionally express. But there was one part of his Royal Highness's letter, which he was persuaded never came from himself. It was that in which he declared that he had predilections to indulge. His Royal Highness's whole life had been one of predilections. The answer of his Noble Friends he heartily approved. His Noble Friends had been invited to form a Government, in conjunction with that existing. Under the circumstances of direct difference of opinion on questions of vital importance, he appealed to the House and to the country, whether his Noble Friends could have acted otherwise than they had done? The Noble Lord entered into a long argument in favour of relieving the Irish Catholics from their disabilities. All the subjects of the State ought to be placed on the same footing, and ought to enjoy equal civil rights. Unless any set of men had done something to justify withholding from them equal privileges, it was tyranny to do so. The worst feature of Popery itself was intolerance, and he hoped that worst feature would not be imitated by Protestantism. As there was no good unmixed with evil, so there was no evil unmixed with good; and although by the late occurrences the hopes and expectations of the Country had been disappointed, yet the public had been in some measure reconciled by them to public men, and had felt that they had been abused, when they were told that all public men were influenced by corrupt motives.

Lord HARROWBY asked, what were the House called upon to do? They were called to address the Prince Regent, and to express their hopes that his Royal Highness might be able to form an united Administration. After the speech of the Noble and Learned Lord, did the House really entertain any such hopes? If not, would it not be insulting the Regent to tell him that the House of Lords hoped he would be enabled to do that which the Noble and Learned Lord had just informed the House could not be done without a dishonourable abandonment of principle? The extraordinary state of the press had been adduced in support of the motion. Was that a new thing within the last six weeks? Certainly the press teemed with strong attacks—but whence did they come? Was it because a part of the press was audacious enough to bid defiance to all decency, that the House must agree to the motion of his Noble Friend? Adverting to the argument in favour of the Catholics, he observed, that the Noble and Learned Lord was a convert on that subject; for when in the Cabinet he believed that the Noble and Learned Lord had not shewn himself a friend to Catholic Emancipation.

Lord ERSKINE denied that he had changed his opinions. It was known when he was in administration that the grand obstacle to dealing with Catholic Emancipation, was the impracticability of effecting the object. He in common with his coadjutors had acceded to the proposition, but he felt that if they had advanced a step further, it would have led to a dissolution of the Administration of which he formed a part.—(*A laugh.*) Noble Lords might be inclined to laugh when he spoke of going out of office, but they would abstain, if they knew the necessity of preparation before going in.

The LORD CHANCELLOR conceived that the case must be a strong one indeed which could induce Parliament to interfere with the Crown in the nomination of its Ministers; such a proceeding would have the effect of destroying that responsibility in the Ministers which Noble Lords seemed so desirous to establish. The Noble Lord had stated that Parliament had refused to take into consideration the Petitions of the subject. When, he would ask, did such a Resolution pass? The Petitions of the Catholics were not conformable with the established principles of the Revolution in 1688. At that Revolution, religious freedom and religious toleration, consistent with national religion, were permitted to their fullest extent. To say therefore that that sort of religious toleration, which was incompatible with the Established Religion of the State, was to be admitted, was an argument which could not be endured. It must not be forgotten, that at the Revolution the Crown was placed on the head of a Protestant *for ever*.

Earl GREY was anxious to state his opinions upon the question, not wishing to deny to the Noble and Learned Lord, that

the motion was substantially a motion for the change of the Administration.—(*Hear, hear!*)—The motion was legitimate and lawful. The questions to be considered were, whether the motion of Address truly described the Administration as in character and principles inimical to the public interest?—and whether those principles, and that character thus recognised, could be maintained with security and safety to the Empire, and without endangering the Establishment in Church and State? Now, of what materials were they composed? They were, in fact, an Administration upon resistance to Catholic Claims.—What had been the general conduct of the head of that Administration since his elevation to power? Why, an unqualified and eternal resistance to Catholic Emancipation, as tending to the absolute destruction of all security in Church and State; that opposition, the Head of the Administration was ready to maintain, and to support the principle of eternal exclusion to all classes of his fellow subjects.—Wherever the head went the rest must follow. It had, indeed, been said that they had never heard of the denunciations against the Catholics. These denunciations had been frequent and loud for the last three weeks. They had proceeded from the pulpit in sermons, which on certain occasions had produced to the preacher much benefit. One of these Reverend Preachers had been lately gazetted as one of the Prince Regent's Private Chaplains. (*Hear, hear!*) These were strong and undeniable proofs of the intolerance of the present Administration—of the predilection for exclusion, contrary to the genuine principles of the British Constitution. If reports were to be credited, the present Administration were to receive an accession of strength which perhaps they thought would benefit the State: There were two Noble Lords whom he saw, who were reported as likely to give strength to this weak Administration. He did not know whether *the devoted victims to place* had received from the Minister any communication of their intended disgrace. But these two Noble Lords had professedly avowed determined principles of exclusion. One of the Noble Lords had revived the coronation oath, as being an insuperable bar to the claims of the Catholics being allowed. In short, at all points they had been armed with the cry of—No Popery.—Was this an Administration competent to all the purposes and objects for which Administration was formed? Was it not an Administration obnoxious to the people? The necessity of conciliation was apparent. Much had been said of the principles of the Revolution; he was, however, prepared to deny that the principles of the Revolution were such as now stated; the disabilities then imposed were different from those at present insisted upon; those disabilities were connected with certain political incapacities which prevented them from receiving what they demanded. When the necessity for imposing these restraints ceased, then to continue them became tyranny of the very worst description. If the House could put themselves in the situation of the Catholics, with their expectations blasted, what would be their feelings upon the occasion? Was it matter of much surprise that discontent should arise? Was it matter of astonishment, that finding themselves duped they exhibited chagrin? The expectation still remained, and it was for the responsible advisers of the Prince Regent to answer, for he would not believe that his Royal Highness would induce hopes which could never be realised. It could never be expected that the "new era" would be an era of bigotry and superstition.—With respect to the letter signed by his Noble Friend and himself, they therein stated that they would not accept of office upon any other terms than those which recommended the adoption of those measures of conciliation to the Catholics, so necessary in his opinion to the safety of the State. The very terms of it cut off the probability of junction with the present Administration.—On the subject of the war in the Peninsula, nothing could give him greater satisfaction than the separation of Spain from France. As principals in the war, unless supported by the Spanish Government, he had no hopes of ultimate success, notwithstanding he might estimate highly the opinion of the gallant Commander in Chief in the Peninsula. The amendment proposed spoke of the successes of our armies. Of what had we to boast? After the fall of Tarragona and of Valencia, and after the capture of General Blake, and nearly the whole of his army, what grounds for exultation could be found in the situation in which things stood there? There was nothing that could reconcile him to the present system. Lord Wellington had been at the head of not fewer than 62,000 of the best troops that any nation could command; at the head of an army considerably greater than that which was under the command of the Duke of Marlborough, when he carried the glory of this country to the highest pitch it could attain; yet with such an army, what had Lord Wellington accomplished? He had been obliged only to act on the defensive; and when this was stated, what more could be wanted to show the folly of the present system, what more to show that we could not effectually retard the operations of the French? Under these circumstances, to combine with men in resisting the just claims of the Catholics, with a view to benefit the Empire at large, was impossible.

Lord MULGRAVE noticed what had fallen from the last speaker with respect to the war in the Peninsula, and asked, if taking such a view of the subject as he might take, and withdrawing our aid from our Allies altogether, would be likely to be satisfactory to the country? It was said that the Catholics were four millions in number; and it was further said, that they were greatly irritated. They were greatly irritated, and therefore they ought not to be trusted too much. It was now said, give them the command of the Army and Navy, and they will be satisfied. But was it certain they would be so? They had promised to be content with the concessions made them in 1793, but they had forgotten, or at least they had not observed their promise. Their Lordships, he was confident, could not agree to the Address, as to carry up such an one under existing circumstances would be insulting to the Prince.

The Earl of MOIRA thanked the last Speaker for the frank and fair manner in which he expressed himself with respect to the Catholic claims, and doubting before in what way to act, the arguments of the Noble Lord had the effect of determining him to vote for the original motion. Why were they to shut their eyes to the effects of neglecting the Catholics of Ireland? Why close their visual organs to the threatening evils, which met in time could be surmounted; but which, suffered to augment, might ultimately overwhelm them? If we had a formidable overwhelming enemy to encounter abroad, was it not at once our duty and our interest to avail ourselves of our best resources at home? At such a crisis we should look to Ireland for all the support it is in her power to afford, and endeavour to avail ourselves of all her strength, by allowing her a full share of the blessings of the Constitution. On his soul he believed, and he would say it before the Almighty, that the safety of this empire solely depended on conciliating the Catholics of Ireland; nor could he see any security for the empire, but in uniting heart and hand all parts of it. He thought it indispensibly necessary to conciliate the population of Ireland; but after what they had heard that night, not only did it appear that there was no hope of conciliating, but that there was no hope of tranquillizing them, without a change of system.

The House then divided, when the numbers were—For the original motion, 65—For the amended Address, 172—Majority in favour of Ministers, 107—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 9.

PORTUGAL.—THE REGENT'S MESSAGE.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Supply, Lord CASTLEREAGH said, that the grounds upon which Parliament had been originally called upon to assist the exertions of Portugal were so fresh in the recollection of the House, that he hoped that there was now no occasion for any extended arguments to restate them. If, in former times, and before we had any experience of the exertions that Portugal was capable of making and willing to make, Parliament was convinced that it was bound in liberality to vote a sum of money for the defence of Portugal, and *through Portugal for the defence of the Spanish Peninsula*, he hoped, that after the experience we now

had of *the efficacy* of the supplies that had formerly been granted, there could be now no objection to a grant similar to that of last year.—He thought, indeed, that the question was now drawn within a very narrow compass; and that it was impossible to object to the proposed grant, except on one of the two propositions which he should state. The objection must be either on the principle, that to grant money to a foreign nation was a thing in itself so fundamentally wrong, that no circumstances could justify it; or else that the situation of the affairs in *the Peninsula* was so hopeless that notwithstanding the *brilliant successes* which our arms had been attended with, and the faith of Parliament pledged to support the cause of the Peninsula, it would be a fruitless waste of money to proceed any farther. It was possible that there might be persons who, viewing the subject in one of those lights, would think it right to give no support to Portugal. Two years ago there was a great disposition to doubt whether there was any likelihood of efficacious support from Portugal, equal to the money demanded; but it was now seen that the supplies sent were not only sufficient to enable Lord Wellington to retain a defensive position, but to drive the enemy beyond the frontiers, and even to take from them a most important fortress in view of their accumulated armies in that part of Spain. The events which had thus taken place in the course of the last year, removed all the objections that had been made as to the service which the supply would afford to Portugal. Now as to the principle of granting subsidy, he should observe, that in granting it in favour of Portugal, we would be subsidizing a nation with which the national feelings of this country most strongly sympathised, and which we were peculiarly called upon to assist, by every feeling of national policy and national pride. It was hardly, however, fair to call that a subsidy, which was a grant to increase the exertions of our allies, in aid of the operations of our armies acting for British objects as well as for their interests. All the exertions which the British troops could have made alone, and even the splendid talents of Lord Wellington, must have failed in obtaining the successes which have attended our operations in that quarter, if they had not been supported by the cooperation of the Portuguese force which those grants had brought into the field. The first great testimony of the value of those troops was from the enemy, who, from their conduct at Busaco, believed them to be British troops that Lord Wellington had clothed in Portuguese uniforms. It was highly creditable to the Portuguese Government that he was able to state, that such had been the financial exertions of that Government, that notwithstanding the devastations committed by the French armies while they were in Portugal, the revenues of that country, applicable to the purposes of war, were now greater than they had been at any former period in the history of Portugal; and from the exertions of the Government, the finances of the country were progressively increasing. It ought also to be recollected, that, during the irruption of the French, there was no treachery to the common cause discovered in any part of Portugal. His Lordship concluded by moving, "That a sum not exceeding two millions should be granted to his Majesty, to enable him to continue to maintain and pay a body of Portuguese troops, and farther to assist in the defence of Portugal."

Mr. FREMANTLE said, that when the House were now again called upon for a grant of two millions, he thought that they ought to bear in recollection what was the *original object* which we proposed to ourselves, in entering upon the present contest in the Peninsula; and if that object was found to have *completely failed*, he thought that they ought to abstain from voting a lavish expenditure of public money in support of it. The first object of our embarking in the Peninsular war was *to rescue Spain and the Spanish people from the dominion of France.* This object was adopted by the House unanimously, and, in a manner, by acclamation. Although he heartily approved of our entering into the contest at that time, yet if he had anticipated then, that, in four years after, we should not be able to advance an inch in Spain, and that our exertions would be entirely confined to the defence of Portugal, he was by no means sure that he would have agreed to such a vote.—He should put it to any Member in that House, whether, if in the year 1807, it had been supposed that our exertions could do nothing but maintain our position in Portugal, the vote would have then passed with such acclamation? He felt the difficulty of the situation in which he was placing himself. He knew he was treading on ground that was not the most popular; and that he differed on this point from many of those with whom he generally acted, and whose authority had the greatest weight with him. Nevertheless, he felt himself impelled by his sense of duty to state his objections to this grant. In every thing which related to the war in Spain we had *completely failed*; we had failed, not from any want of exertion on our part, but from the total failure of that co-operation which was to be expected from the Spaniards. As Spain, and not Portugal, was the ultimate object for which we had entered into the war, and as this ultimate object had failed, he could not agree to the large grant that was now proposed. He called upon those Gentlemen who were likely soon to go back to their constituents, to consider how they could tell those constituents that they had been voting two millions to be taken out of their pockets, and given to the Portuguese, at a time when the annual expenditure of the country was nearly 100 millions. He did not see how it was possible that this rate of expenditure could be persisted in, while the commerce of the country was crippled as it now is by the continental system of the enemy. He conceived that this was, in fact, paying the Portuguese to defend their own country. The expences of our army in Portugal were much greater than Gentlemen in general seemed aware of. He conceived, that a force of less than 50,000 British troops would not be effective for the defence of Portugal; and as for the support of this army, hay, corn, and provisions of every sort, were to be imported from England and America, and then carried by land to the places where the army were stationed, the expence was most enormous. He could prove, that for mules alone, the expence was 4,000*l.* a day. The expence of transporting the heavy artillery to the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo, was not less than 20,000*l.* and he understood that every single horse cost the nation five shillings a day. The chief object should be to look at the present situation of this country, and to consider the practicability of persevering in a system which did not hold out the same prospects as it did at first.—(*Hear!*)—He was glad that Ministers attended, for he did not wish to shrink from a phrase he used. He did not say we should abandon Portugal; but that we should carry on measures consistent with our means, and with those of Portugal, and not on a system that, if persevered in, might end in our utter destruction. We should proceed on a plan more confined, but more conducive to our own security, and the ultimate peace and prosperity of the nation.

After some few observations by Mr. WARD, Lord COCHRANE, and Sir THOMAS TURTON, the Resolution was carried *nem. con.*

BREAKWATER IN PLYMOUTH SOUND.

Mr. YORKE rose to move the grant of 80,000*l.* for the purpose of commencing this undertaking. The points for the consideration of the Committee were, first, whether it was expedient to do any thing for the improvement of Plymouth Sound; and secondly, whether the plan now proposed was likely to be the most beneficial. All Gentlemen acquainted with naval affairs must be aware, that Plymouth Sound, or that part of it called Hamoaze, had been considered for the last 20 or 30 years a very unsafe roadstead for ships of the line to anchor in, though adjoining one of the most magnificent arsenals in the kingdom, and though a station of such immense importance for watching the movements of the enemy. The consequence was, that the Channel fleet had been obliged to make use of Torbay, or Falmouth, neither of which places was possessed of nearly the same advantages as Plymouth, where the dock-yards and arsenals were placed, and where it was consequently of the greatest importance that there should be smooth water, for safely anchoring a fleet of 20 or 30 ships of the line. It was true the enemy had not a fleet in Brest at present; but from the various changes of wind and weather, there was, at least, a possibility of their being able to assemble one in that port; and hence it became of importance to obtain a secure station at Plymouth, from whence our fleet might be able to get out with an easterly wind, and

where the motions of the enemy might be watched without the necessity of a constant blockade. This alone would save an immense expenditure, which was necessarily occasioned by the wear and tear of our ships in the blockade of the enemy, and would soon repay the money expended in forming a safe road-stead at Plymouth. The plan which was proposed was not a modern idea, but had been a subject of great consideration ever since 1785. A Mr. Smith, one of the Master-attendants in Plymouth yard, had long ago proposed two plans to Government on the subject; and in 1806 Lord Howick, then at the head of the Admiralty, sent down to Mr. Rennie, one of the most eminent engineers of the present day, who, after an accurate survey, proposed the plan now adopted by Government. It consisted in forming a Breakwater, nearly a mile in length, which it was expected would afford a safe anchorage to about 20 ships of the line; and to prevent any accumulation which might produce shoal-water in the Sound, it was proposed that the Breakwater should be open at both ends, which would afford a free current to the tides.—The French Government had been able to accomplish a similar undertaking at Cherbourg, which was begun so long ago as 1785, under the direction of the Duc de Castres; and even though the expences of the present plan should be 1,500,000*l.*, which was the estimate, he would appeal to all sea officers, whether the accomplishment would not be of the greatest importance, and ultimately be a saving to the country. On these grounds he should propose that a sum not exceeding 80,000*l.* be granted for the purchase of quarries for the works at Plymouth Sound.—The motion was then put and carried.

MILITARY TORTURE.

The Local Militia Bill was read a third time.

Sir FRANCIS BURDETT rose, for the purpose of proposing an amendment. He said it was not his wish to revive the debate that had already occurred upon the question of Flogging—he wanted merely to put on record his objection to it generally, and particularly as affecting the Local Militia; as if this system of punishment was allowed in the Local Militia, it was extending it to the whole population of the country. He mentioned the case of Taylor, a man of talents and attainments far above his station in life, who had been flogged for writing some verses. He thought too the affair at Ely a memorable instance of the gross abuse of this power—in that case it appeared that the young men thought they were entitled to the marching guinea—they acted under that misapprehension, and were sentenced to receive 500 lashes. He then moved as an Amendment to that clause of the Bill subjecting the Local Militia to the Articles of War, &c. except so far as the same extends to the infliction of corporal punishment.

Colonel WOOD said, he could state, on the authority of General Beckwith, that a book had been found, after the action of Fuente d'Honore, in which were entries of 320 Court Martial in the French army within the preceding six months, in all of which capital punishments were imposed, and in addition the parents of each of the parties, they having all deserted, were sentenced to six months imprisonment, and to pay fines of 100 marks. The book had been lost; but Gen. Beckwith had assured him, if any similar one should afterwards be found, he should transmit it home for the information of the House.

Mr. W. SMITH was of opinion that the argument to be deduced from the circumstance last mentioned, cut quite the other way, as it shewed that even a capital punishment was more tolerable to the French army, than that of flogging.

Mr. WHITBREAD contended, that they were not for a relaxation of the discipline of the army, but for the abolition of the torture of Flogging. The Local Militia, too, it was to be observed, was not composed of the same class with the army. They were balloted for, and compelled to serve.

Lord PALMERSTONE remarked, if Local Militiamen were to be exempt from Flogging, because they were balloted for and compelled to serve, so ought sailors who were impressed.

Mr. THORNTON was in favour of the amendment.

The amendment was discounted, and the Bill passed.

Mr. THORN[illegible] declaring the Seats of Members, who should become bankrupts, vacant after a limited time. It was read a first time, and ordered to be read again on the 23d instant.

Tuesday, March 17.

Sir F. BURDETT presented a Petition from Samuel Fletcher, a brewer in Westminster, complaining of some oppressive conduct and proceedings of the Board of Excise. He stated, that the Petitioner had expended capital to a very large amount on his brewery, and that in consequence of an extent issued by the Treasury on account of some alleged offence against the Excise, the officers had seized all his property, to the amount of 5000*l.* for the payment of 200*l.* by which he was, from being a reputable and respectable tradesman, reduced to absolute want.—The Petition was ordered to be brought up and read, and went into a history of the transaction, when after the Clerk had expended upwards of half an hour in the reading, in turning over the leaves of the Petition, it was accidentally discovered that there was no signature to it, on which the SPEAKER said, that the Petition being signed by nobody, was informal, and could not be received.

Mr. S. SMITH presented a Petition from the Inhabitants of Leicester, complaining of grievances in their trade, in consequence of the Orders in Council. He said, that so far from labouring under the same disadvantage as that just presented by the Hon. Baronet, of having no signature, this petition was signed by 11,000 persons.—It was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. BRAND gave notice, that he would on the 21st of April, make a motion on the subject of a Reform in Parliament.

BANK-NOTE LEGAL TENDER BILL.

Mr. PERCEVAL rose, for the purpose of moving, that the Act of last Session, making Bank Notes a legal tender, in certain cases, be extended to Ireland. He did not intend to make any other alteration in the provisions, further than the extending the operation of the Bill to Ireland, and the propriety of providing that payments of Bank-notes into Court, out of Court, and in process of law, should be deemed legal payments. In passing the measure they were only giving legal security to that species of payment which the larger portion of the country were content to receive. He then moved that, "Leave be given to bring in a Bill to continue and amend the 51st of the King, relating to Bank Notes, and to extend the provisions of the said Act to Ireland."

Lord FOLKSTONE took the earliest opportunity of entering his protest against the measure, and to express his utter astonishment at the flippant manner in which the Right Hon. Gentleman had introduced it, well knowing that the effect of it would be nothing short of making Bank-notes a legal tender.

Mr. TIERNEY said, he did not rise to oppose the motion for leave to bring in this Bill. No Bill ever more required to be well known and to be fully discussed than the Bill of Lord Stanhope, the new ally of the Right Hon. Gentleman. He had, however, no encouragement at all to offer his opinion, after what had passed in the House on the subject of Bank-notes. No subject had ever been more maturely considered, more closely sifted, or more amply discussed. There was also one of the most important and clear Reports made to the House that was ever laid before it; and all he could say on this occasion would only be to repeat what had been so much better said before. The Report expressly informed them they were going on from bad to worse; and if they would not believe the strong reasons therein given by their Committee, it was in vain for him to expect they would regard what came from him individually. If Parliament submitted to this, they became answerable for the consequences, however fatal they might prove. It was a vital blow at the credit of the country, and they had no security against the excessive issue of paper but the forbearance of the Bank. He did not mean to speak the smallest disrespect of the Bank Directors. Many of them he knew well, with some of them he was intimately connected, and most of them he respected as individuals; but as a corporate body, he considered them only greedy of gain, and attentive to their own self-interest. He protested most solemnly against the measure, and

warned the House, that if persisted in, it must end in the utter ruin of the public credit of the country.

Mr. PERCEVAL confessed he did feel pain in being obliged to continue this measure. He thought the Right Hon. Gentleman tried to shake the credit of the Bank by three sentences which he had strung together, when he described them as a corporate body greedy only of gain. The Right Hon. Gentleman said he would not oppose the Bill; he was in hopes he intended to withdraw his opposition in other matters.

Mr. TIERNEY said, he certainly should not withdraw his opposition in other matters, for he did not know any man that deserved so much to be opposed as the Right Hon. Gentleman.

The House divided, when the numbers were—Noes, 73—Ayes, 26—Majority, 47.

On the re-admission of strangers into the gallery,

Mr. TIERNEY was proposing a motion for a Committee to enquire into the outstanding demands on the Bank, and the means of the Bank to meet them; together with the effects of the Order in Council in 1797 on that subject.

The motion being negatived, Mr. TIERNEY moved for an account of the Dividends received by the Bank Proprietors since the restrictions; on which a debate ensued, in which Mr. MARRYATT, Mr. MANNING, Mr. BARHAM, and Mr. GRENFELL, took part. The latter said, that, as a Bank Proprietor, he had received on an average, on his capital, since 1797, 22½ per cent.—*(Hear.)*—This motion was also negatived.

PLYMOUTH BREAKWATER.

The Report of the Committee of Supply was brought up.

On the proposed Grant of 80,000*l.* for the Plymouth Breakwater, a long discussion ensued; in which Mr. KEENE, Sir H. POPHAM, Capt. BERESFORD, Sir R. BICKERTON, Mr. HERBERT (of Kerry), Sir J. S. YORKE, Mr. WHITBREAD, Lord COCHRANE, Sir C. POLE, and Mr. YORKE, took the principal part. A great variety of observations were made relative to the localities,—the mode of construction,—the comparative advantages of the different plans,—the depth of water,—the occasional state of wind and weather,—the utility of similar undertakings in foreign harbours,—and the expense of the plan proposed.

Lord COCHRANE moved, as an Amendment, that the money should be paid by a tax of 50 per cent. on all Sinecure Places, of which the Committee of Finance had recommended the abolition, and 20 per cent. on all such upon which they reported.

The SPEAKER informed him, that his Amendment was irregular!

The motion for the Grant was agreed to.—Adjourned.

Friday, March 20.

A THIRD THEATRE.

On the proposal for reading this Bill a second time, it was opposed by Mr. P. MOORE and Mr. WHITBREAD, who contended that a Third Theatre was not wanted, and that to multiply their number would be to provide the public with bad actors every where and good plays no where.—The motion was supported by Lord OSSULSTON, Mr. SUMNER, and Mr. BROWN, who were convinced that the Drama would be materially improved by putting down the monopoly, for then a competition would take place, and beastly exhibitions give way to decent and rational performances.—The Bill was however thrown out, on the motion of Mr. P. MOORE, by a majority of 24.

THE PRINCESSES.

A message was brought down from the Regent, requesting the House to take into consideration the propriety of making "such a Provision for their Royal Highnesses the Princesses as may be thought suitable."—To be considered on Monday.

The Penitentiary House Bill went through the Committee, and the House then adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Carlton-House, March 17.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name and on behalf of his Majesty, to appoint the Earl of Thomond to be one of the Lords of his Majesty's Bedchamber. His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has also been pleased, in the name and on behalf of his Majesty, to appoint John M'Mahon, Esq. to be Keeper of the Privy Purse, and Private Secretary to his Royal Highness.

Whitehall, March 17.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to order a Writ to be issued under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for summoning the Right Hon. Hugh Percy (commonly called Earl Percy), up to the House of Peers, by the style and title of Baron Percy.

[Admiral Sir Roger Curtis has transmitted a letter from Capt. Wells, of his Majesty's sloop the Phipps, giving an account of his having, on the 11th instant, taken, by boarding, Le Cerf, French lugger privateer, carrying five guns, eight swivels, and 31 men.]

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

R. Gyles, St. Ives, merchant, from March 17 to April 15.
W. Everitt, Golden-lane, grocer, from March 17 to April 7.

BANKRUPTS.

A. Young, Chester, milliner.
R. Potter, Derby, straw bonnet-manufacturer.
W. Johnson, Hucclecote, Gloucestershire, wheelwright.
W. Sykes, Leicester, dealer.
J. Wilson, Knighton, Radnor, tanner.
W. Lucas, Holbeach Marsh, Lincolnshire, jobber.
T. Cady, Ipswich, dealer.
R. Tribe, Hambledon, Southampton, brewer.
B. Grilly, Sloane-street, coal-merchant.
R. Beales, Goodge-street, tripeman.
H. Cooper and J. Purdy, Ludgate-hill, booksellers.
E. Smalley, Leeds, draper.
T. Jones, Church-passage, Guildhall-yard, warehouseman.
J. Cole, Norwich, silk-mercer.
J. Wainwright, sen. Wavertree, Lancashire, joiner.
G. Maine and S. Gill, Hackney-road, horse-dealers.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

At the Court at Carlton House, the 20th of March, 1812, Present, His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in Council: This day the Most Hon. Charles Ingoldsby, Marquis of Winchester, Groom of the Stole to his Majesty; the Right Hon. Francis Charles Seymour, commonly called the Earl of Yarmouth, Vice-Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household; and the Right Hon. John M'Mahon, Keeper of the Privy Purse, and Private Secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, were, by his Royal Highness's command, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, sworn of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

T. Neave, Gutter-lane, Cheapside, silk-weaver.

BANKRUPTS.

C. Somers and J. Lendstedt, Liverpool, merchants.
W. Long, York, woollen-draper.
J. Townsend, Crane-court, Fleet-street, upholsterer.
W. P. Phillipps, Great James-street, coal merchant.
G. Gray, Pentonville, Commander of the ship Canton.
T. Owen, Stockport, shopkeeper.
S. and R. Part, Tildsley with Shackerley, Lancaster, cotton-spinners.
R. Powell, Staines, basket-maker.
F. Cianchettini, New Bond-street, music-seller.
W. B. Stuart, Saint Ives, Huntingdon, fellmonger.
J. Thew, South Shields, ship-owner.
G. Griffiths, Flamstead, Herts, butcher.
C. Reynolds, Bridge-court, Middlesex, picture-dealer.
J. Turner, Cranbourne-passage, silk-mercer.
W. Wilkinson, T. Greenhalgh, and J. Wrigley, Clithero, Lancaster, calico-printers.

J. Smith, Greenwich-road, builder.
T. Etherington, Lawrence Pountney-lane, drysalter.
D. Hyde, Waltham Abbey, grocer.
G. Sizer, Oxford-street, silk-mercer.
J. F. Desanges, Wheeler-street, Spitalfields, colour-dyer.
J. W. Bunney, Clapton, Middlesex, cow-keeper.
D. P. Pereira, Artillery-place, Finsbury, underwriter.
J. Lewington, Leman-street, Goodman's-fields, plumber.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. . ..59¼—Consols for Acc. ··· 59⅜

The POLITICAL EXAMINER of next Sunday will be occupied by some Remarks on the Life and Character of the late Mr. HORNE TOOKE.

Remarks at some length next week on the excellent revival of *Julius Cæsar*, the Play itself, and the Performers.

Some of the various letters that have been sent us on Mr. EATON's case,—the Lines on Mr. HORNE TOOKE,—MISO TYRANNUS, &c. at the same time, if possible.

As there is reason to believe that there is at present existing a regularly organized Gang of Swindlers, who prey upon charitably disposed persons by private appeals to their feelings, any of our readers who happen to have knowledge of a conspiracy so dangerous to the best feelings of society and to the interests of that charity in whose name it exercises its base activity, will oblige the *Examiner* with a disclosure of what they have learnt.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

THERE is still a dearth even of reports from abroad, with the exception that BONAPARTE is said to have set out for the North, in order to overlook his new demands upon his vassals, whatever they may happen to be. If Prussia however is his object, there appears no necessity for his stirring: he can do more wonders of the destructive kind in his closet, than ever did ARCHIMEDES; and the pen of his Minister of War is worth some thousand of swords under the management of my Lord CASTLEREAGH. But whatever may be the talk on this subject, it is not clear that the French Emperor must be going where they imagine: his tricks of previous rumour, to set people on a wrong scent, have been pretty notorious; and his object may really be southward instead of northward, for aught that we know to the contrary. It may have struck him, of late, that his troops have been long enough on the other side of the Pyrenees, both to prove the nonentity of Spanish resistance, and at the same time to lose a little of their reputation when coming in contact with those of Britain: and he may have resolved therefore to finish his usurpation at once, and after shaking his fist at his northern vassals by way of admonition, to bear his whole strength upon the final clearance of the Peninsula.—It is true, we have just voted—I beg pardon, the Ministers have just decreed, another two millions for "assisting the defence of Portugal;" ("the defence of Portugal," observe: it is no longer the defence of Spain and Portugal; for the enemy are sure to take our expences off our hands sooner or later):—but what can two millions do for *this slippery* edge of the Continent, when two hundred times two millions have not been able to keep us a single friend on the rest of it? And my Lord CASTLEREAGH too, the chapman of seats, the grave-digger of Walcheren, is the modest personage who comes to demand this money and to make use of it!—Well:—let us wait for the new Parliament, and see what they will do for us; or rather in the mean time let us put on a spirit, that shall help us to constitute that Parliament as it ought to be constituted, and not fill it with representatives who no more represent us than Mr. PERCEVAL represents liberality or the PRINCE REGENT wisdom.

A Debate has taken place in the House of Lords respecting the Letter of the PRINCE REGENT, and the views of the two parties, when Lord BORINGDON's Motion for offering a little adjusting advice to his ROYAL HIGHNESS was negatived by a large majority. Some new light was expected to be thrown on the matter by this discussion, but nothing transpired beyond what the public already know. Lord GREY, however, is reported by the *Chronicle* to have denounced "*a pestilent and odious* influence behind the throne," and Lord DARNLEY to have made the following plain declaration upon the same subject, adding at the same time that he had already made it to the PRINCE REGENT personally;—"Ministers know that their existence depends upon a breath,—upon advisers not avowed. They rest upon persons not officially known to the House; upon persons who for their own selfish objects would poison the royal ear, and who, if allowed to remain, will prove the destruction either of the PRINCE or the country." Lord DARNLEY, in so doing, acted like a man of honour, who despised what he denounced, and felt for the common fame of the PRINCE and the interest of his fellow Englishmen;—but what shall destroy favouritism but adversity? or what indeed shall make Princes wise, whom indulgence and flattery have conspired to make foolish?

☞

Disturbances are said to have broken out among the people at Manchester, whither Government have ordered a body of troops in all haste. There is rather a mysterious silence maintained on this subject. The *Courier* of yesterday says, "we have not heard that they have produced any very serious mischief, and we trust the *vigorous measures* adopted will restore tranquillity. Some documents of importance are said to have been found and forwarded to Government."—Still will this very print maintain that the country is in the most prosperous condition!

A Swedish Courier is arrived with dispatches, supposed to be of great importance. A Gottenburgh Mail also arrived yesterday, and proceeding in their system of hostility towards Swedish Pomerania, the French have disarmed and disbanded the Swedish troops in that province. This is supposed to have operated decisively upon the Councils of the Swedish Cabinet.

There is some reason to hope that the capture of the L'Orient squadron may be effected. The official advices received at the Admiralty state, that "the enemy's squa-

dron, of four sail of the line and two corvettes, which escaped from L'Orient on the 9th inst. was seen and kept company with by the Diana, 36 guns, Captain FERRIS, on the 9th and the whole of the 10th. On the latter day she fell in with the Pompee, 80 guns, and late in the evening she discovered two sail, apparently of the line, standing in pursuit of the French. On the morning of the 11th, the Diana being in lat. 48. 15. N. long. 5. 58. W. a firing was heard in the N. W. which Captain FERRIS calculated to be the French and the two ships that were in pursuit of them.—Sir R. KING writes on the 11th, that he had fallen in with the Myrtle sloop, who had communicated to him, that the L'Orient squadron were seen on the 10th, twenty leagues N. W. of Ushant, his Majesty's ships Tremendous and Poictiers being to windward of them. Sir RICHARD KING, with the Northumberland, Bulwark, and Colossus, was proceeding off Brest."—Adm. DURHAM also sailed on Thursday, with four sail of the line and a sloop, in search of the French. The Comet, 16, is ordered to follow. The Diana, it is said, made sail on the 11th, to apprize the outward-bound convoys of the sailing of the enemy. No farther intelligence has arrived.

A Common Hall will be held on Thursday next, at Guildhall, for the purpose of taking into consideration the alarming state of the country.—Not one honest Liveryman should be absent; for never were times more prognostic of utter wretchedness and ruin than the present.

Some German Papers arrived on Friday night; but their contents are of no importance. GUSTAVUS, the deposed King of Sweden, has obtained a divorce from his wife, upon what grounds are not known.

BONAPARTE, according to a report brought by a vessel from Ostend, has left Paris for the North.

Mr. SHERIDAN's friends have succeeded, *for the present*, in stopping the progress of a Third Theatre. Their triumph, however, cannot be permanent; for when Drury-lane Theatre is again opened, and the public are again, by its great size, reduced to the necessity of visiting a house, in which they can neither see nor hear, the general voice against the monopoly must prevail. It is really lamentable to see such men as Mr. P. MOORE and Mr. WHITBREAD, from private motives, standing forth the advocates of a monopoly every way so injurious to the drama.

"G. LISTER, Esq. the new Sheriff, has visited Lincoln Castle, and closely examined every department. To the complaints of Messrs. DRAKARD and FINNERTY, &c. he gave the most gentlemanlike attention, and promised complete redress. For Mr. FINNERTY he ordered an airy apartment in the front of the prison, for which that gentleman had so long looked in vain—and the prisoners heard with peculiar satisfaction the declared purpose of the Sheriff that the Magistrates shall not interfere with his authority.—We are sorry to learn from Mr. DRAKARD (continues the *Stamford News*), that the satisfaction which he originally expressed at the treatment he experienced in his confinement, has given place to a very different sentiment, the grounds of which will probably be explained at length in a future paper."

At the Wexford Assizes, last week, *Luke Green* was convicted of the wilful murder of his son; the prisoner was a sweep, and his son was his apprentice. The prisoner came home in liquor, and began quarrelling with the deceased: the child to avoid his fury ran up the chimney; the prisoner immediately put a bundle of straw into the grate, and set fire to it, which burned him in such a manner that he languished for nine days, and then died. The prisoner was between 60 and 70 years of age.

The *Post* of yesterday says, that the Opposition are "fools, liars, and traitors."—A day or two before it uttered some inflated complaints about scurrilous attacks and ungentlemanly language!

Five bills have been found at the Bury Assizes against *Edward Thrower*, for murder several years ago, and also against one *Smith* and his *Wife*, charged with the murder of their daughter, only eight years of age!

At Winchester assizes twenty prisoners were capitally convicted, nine of whom were left for execution. When two of them, Frenchmen, for forgery, were taken from the bar, they cried *Vive Bonaparte! Vive l'Empereur!*

Whiting, who has been hung for attempting to poison his relatives, though not a licensed Dissenting *Minister*, as stated, lectured upon the Gospels every Sunday, and occasionally preached.

At the Nottingham Assizes, seven of the frame breakers were tried on Wednesday afternoon, of whom three were sentenced to 14 years' transportation, two to seven years' transportation, and two were acquitted.

Mr. HORNE TOOKE, who died at Wimbledon on Wednesday, "had lost (say the papers) the use of his lower extremities, and his dissolution had been for some time expected. Symptoms of mortification recently appeared, which soon occasioned his death. He was attended by his two daughters, Dr. PEARSON, Mr. CLINE, and Sir FRANCIS BURDETT. Being informed of his approaching change, he signified, with a placid look, that he was fully prepared, and had reason to be grateful for having passed so long and so happy a life, which he would willingly have had extended if it had been possible. He expressed satisfaction at being surrounded in his last moments by those most dear to him; and his confidence in the existence of a Supreme Being, whose final purpose was the happiness of his creatures. His facetiousness did not forsake him. When supposed to be in a state of entire insensibility, Sir FRANCIS BURDETT mixed up a cordial for him, which his medical friends said it would be to no purpose to administer; but Sir FRANCIS persevered, and raised Mr. TOOKE, who opened his eyes, and seeing who offered the draught, took the glass and drunk the contents with eagerness. He had previously observed, that he should not be like the man at Strasburgh, who, when doomed to death, requested time to pray, till the patience of the magistrates was exhausted, and then, as a last expedient, begged to be permitted to close his life with his favourite amusement of *nine pins*, but who kept bowling on, with an evident determination never to finish the game. He desired that no funeral ceremony should be said over his remains, but that six of the poorest men in the parish should have a guinea each for bearing him to the vault in his garden.

MONOPOLY.—In another part of this paper will be found the able Speech of Mr. ATTWOOD, of Birmingham, shewing the pernicious consequences of the Monopoly of Trade to the East Indies.—This speech has justly excited much attention; and an intelligent Correspondent well observes upon it, that "taken as a whole, it is a document of precisely the kind we have long wanted: and however formidable GEORGE ROSE may be, with his paper fortifications to

protect him, and paper artillery, pouring forth every possible combination of the nine digits, to frighten his adversaries,—yet reasonable people are not without hopes that the voice of a commercial man, the Chief Magistrate of a commercial town, will, at least, be heard even amidst the thunders of this dot-and-go-one statesman's eloquence. Whatever opinions may be entertained on the policy of the Commercial Monopoly of the East India Company,—and we may well be surprised that there is more than one opinion on the subject,—this speech is an *evidence* of the distresses of the Manufacturers, which effrontry will hardly attempt to deny, or sophistry to explain away. We have all too great reason to know that the Ministers have proved their claim to genius, of some sort or other, by daring great things—but commercial people have hopes,—hopes which it will be dangerous to disappoint,—that to the voice of reason and moderation, coming from so respectable an authority,—not even the present Ministry will *dare* to turn a deaf ear.—If they do, perhaps the age of miracles may come again,—and the deaf once more be made to hear and the blind to see."

EPIGRAMS.

1.

Princeps his rent from tinneries draws,
His best friends are refiners;—
What wonder then his other friends
He leaves for under-*miners*.

2.

Ye Politicians, tell me, pray,
Why thus with woe and care rent?
This is the worst which we can say,
Some wind has blown the *Wig* away,
And left the *Hair Apparent*.

FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

26. *The Sortie made by the Garrison of Gibraltar in* 1781. J. Trumbull.—In examining this picture by the test not only of my own humble observation and feelings, but by the principles of battle-painting as suggested by L. da Vinci, an attentive and masterly observer and painter of nature, I regard it as a work evidently painted with a knowledge of art, and an enthusiastic feeling, admirably suited to the subject. The two main circumstances of the piece, the attack of the Spanish works, and the dying Spaniard with the group of officers near him, excite such strong emotions of the lofty and the pathetic, as may not unaptly be compared to those that are awakened by the alternately bold and tender strains of some of Handel's overtures. The attention of the group of British officers, humanely attracted by the Spaniard in the pangs of a premature death, is, in union with that object, a beautiful antithesis to the storming fury of the soldiers. It has been said that the chief officer, General Elliott, has too great an air of unconcern, both in relation to the dying enemy, and the hurly-burly of the combat so near to him. It is not, however, unconcern, but the calmness of a General accustomed to danger and undisturbed by fear, and the sympathy of one who, familiar with death, expresses it not by a rueful change of feature, such as would arise from an unexpected and appaling sight among peaceful citizens, but by simply stretching forth the hand in sign of proffered assistance to a fallen enemy. The earnest countenances of some of the officers attending the General, and the active movements of others, assist and are in unison with the animated character of the subject. The glowing aspect of the air and the figures, illuminated by the discharge of the "deep-throated engines" of war, and the burning of the Spanish works, contrasted as it is with the dark volumes of smoke, presents a rich and highly natural mass of igneous colouring. In this, and indeed in every part of his subject, Mr. Trumbull has displayed uncommon talent.

46. *The Woman accused of Adultery.* S. Drummond, A.R.A.—There is no painter of the present day who differs so materially from himself as Mr. Drummond. The Prince of Apostates himself cannot exhibit a greater contrast than this artist does in his different works; nay, even in the same piece, as is evident in this picture. Nothing can strike more pleasingly on the imagination than the different reflexions of light and gradations of the chiaro-scuro in the architectural back-ground; and the countenances of the accusers teem with the malignant pleasure they anticipate in the reply of Christ, expecting that his humanity for a wretched culprit may prompt him to say something of which they may make a handle of specious accusation against the great Reformist. The general air of the woman is graceful and contrite. These sterling beauties are however mixed with the alloy of clumsy execution, feebleness of pencil, and vicious colouring in parts. Mr. Drummond appears to be little aware how much expression is invigorated by a firmness of pencil, precision in the drawing, and squareness of marking. They are the energetic diction of art. Without them, expression in art is as much deteriorated as just and beautiful thoughts in literary composition are by unappropriate or languid phraseology. But the parts most obnoxious to the censure of criticism are the figures of Christ and his Disciple. They not only exhibit nothing of the sacred character of inspiration, of the dignity of superior wisdom and virtue, but appear perfectly indifferent to the interesting circumstance before them. They are a couple of as inanimate statues as ever stood on a theatrical stage, while the principal players were actively performing; or as ever appeared among those superfluous figures that are often seen in pictures, and being invested with no action or passion, have been justly denominated "figures to be let."

22, *At Home*, and 28, *Domestic Happiness*, G. Jones, are tasteful representations of the elegant and felicitating avocations of private life. No. 28 exemplifies this couplet,—

"Safe from the storm, the meteor, and the show'r,
"Some pleasing page shall charm the solemn hour,"

and exhibits a Gentleman conversing on the subject of a book he is reading to a Lady, while the intellectual enjoyment is heightened by the snugness in which they are enveloped as they sit on a sofa, the lamp and the fire brightly burning, and the curtains drawn. The forms of the various furniture are elegantly conceived. This piece is purchased by Mr. W. Jones. Both pictures are painted with a rich and warm glow of colour, and a pleasing breadth, vivacity, and depth of effect.

70. *Venus borne on the Waves in her Shell.* Mrs. Ansley.—As this Lady challenges the critic by becoming a competitor for the historic prize, I shall not, from a false

feeling of gallantry, refrain from pronouncing an unreserved opinion on her performance. When the confined means of female study are considered, she wins praise for the delicacy of attitude and form, and gradation of light and shade, in which she has displayed the Queen of Love; but when it is considered that Venus is the *Queen of Beauty* also, it requires the mind of a complete courtier to acquit the fair artist of temerity in venturing on so difficult a subject. It would have been better to have called her Venus a Sea Nymph.

118. *The Race of Hippomenes and Atalanta.* G. GRATTAN.—What a waste of canvas and of time is here! What trouble might not this young artist have saved himself had this incident been described with about a tenth of the number of figures, with about twenty instead of two hundred; for independently of the inevitable repetitions of nearly the same attitudes in figures that are merely spectators, the character of surprise at the success of Hippomenes, and at the means by which he obtained it, could as well have been expressed by a few as by many figures. When more figures are introduced than are necessary to the entire developement of the subject, they dissipate the attention, and create a confusion to the eye. The eye is indeed completely tired and offended with this croud of starers, with sprawling limbs and huge noses—noses that for their size brought to my recollection the comparison made by Solomon in praising the beauties of his beloved;—"Thy nose is as the tower of Lebanon, which looketh toward Damascus."—The best part of the picture is the range of architecture, which has indeed an air of magnificence. It would be advisable for Mr. GRATTAN to endeavour to pourtray a little more mind and less of mere body; to take a subject in which there is more of condensed and decided expression, and to attend a little more to the proportions of his figures.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

"In my last you had a short account of the curious *fracas* which took place at Carlton-house on Saturday fortnight. Another somewhat remarkable occurrence has since taken place. It will be recollected that the Duke of Bedford lately requested and obtained an audience of his Royal Highness. The object of that audience was to lay certain Papers before his Royal Highness, and to recal to his Royal Highness's recollection the hopes and expectations which his Grace, while Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, had been authorised to hold out to the Catholics. The ground upon which the Duke of Bedford acted was, I understand, an instruction from his Royal Highness, to hold out the language which he then used, and which instruction was contained in a letter from his Royal Highness to the Duke. The Duke left a copy of the letter, together with other papers relative to the same subject, with his Royal Highness, for his perusal, adding, that he expected to be questioned as to the matter in the House of Peers, when the Catholic Question came under discussion. The answer of his Royal Highness to the Duke was to the following effect:—'I will always attend, my dear John, to whatever you recommend; rely upon it, these papers shall have my most serious consideration.'"——*Caledonian Mercury.*

"The Baron GRAHAM on Thursday broke the window of a shop where he saw an offensive caricature of a Person of the first rank, and for whom he feels the highest respect, and destroyed the caricature. Notwithstanding we cannot approve of the conduct of the General, who should have left the suppression of the indecent exhibition to the Magistrates; we must still do him the justice to say, that all the numerous caricatures exhibited of himself, he has invariably treated them with indifference. The inattention of the Magistracy to this species of criminal indecency and moral depravity, may well excite the surprise and astonishment of foreigners."—*Morning Post.*

"Many persons seeing the names of the *Marquis of Headfort, Lord Yarmouth, and Lord Petersham*, in the appointments in the Regent's Household, have expressed surprise that THE EARL OF BARRYMORE is not among them. We are sure that Noble Lord's *merits* and *character* stand as high as any of the first-mentioned Noblemen."—*Stamford News.*

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

SIR,—Hating from my soul all affectation, and not wishing to be thought either plain spoken at the expence of private charity, or forbearing at the expence of public justice, I hope I shall so far prove my consistency in the observations which follow, as to entitle me to a spare corner in some future *Examiner*. I care not with whom the Chief Magistrate of the country pleases to associate, nor what taste he displays in the selection of his private guests,—whether he visits one square or another, is platonic or sensual, or derives his gratifications from the courtly and accommodating compliances of the husband, or the conscientious and moral integrity of the son; in short, whether his guests are cuckolds or puritans, pimps or gamesters, drunkards or wits;—whether any or none of this description attract the notice of the Chief Magistrate of this or any other country, it is not my present object to inquire; I only wish to make an observation or two upon such acts, as appear to me more of a public than private nature. First, then, as relates to the discharge of those domestic duties, which may be said more particularly to influence by their example the conduct of a community, I may place the husband's protection and the wife's obedience, and naturally inquire, whether they are exemplified in our own country? We have heard much about "delicate investigation," and "suppressed pamphlets;" but I am of opinion with Mr. Burke, and Sir Wm. Blackstone, that where *innocence* is concerned, truth must not be suppressed, and that delicacy is a term of no very definite signification, and though not inapplicable to a description of those sensations experienced by the agility of an opera dancer, peculiarly so, in estimating the rights and wrongs of individuals. I am really ignorant if an appeal to the laws could be received in the instance of the wife of the First Magistrate of a country, or whether he in whose name, or rather, I should now say, by virtue of whose authority, every law is administered, is thereby absolved from personal responsibility. So long, Mr. Examiner, as the Princess of Wales was the wife of a subject, upon whom executive functions had not devolved (however in point of appearance, and example, a separation was then to be lamented), yet the grounds of that regret are now infinitely increased; and surely it cannot be quietly submitted to in this country, that the wife of the Regent, and the mother of the next in succession to the Crown, is, from prudential motives, or delicacy, forsooth! to excite

neither interest nor observation. The Regent has disavowed political resentments and predilections,—let him equally disavow those in which the Nation feel a more moral interest.—Why was the Princess Charlotte of Wales introduced at a place of public amusement (known to be frequented by her mother) by the Duchess of York? Under whose protection could she have been placed with so much propriety as her mother's? Is it to be endured, that without a cause publicly assigned, the wife and the mother have indignities equally cast upon her? The child is taught to honour both father and mother, and is this fundamental maxim to be acted upon so as to leave no impression on the minds of people, similar to those which were painfully excited in beholding the natural province of a mother delegated into other hands?—"Assume a virtue if you have it not!!!"—What is folly and indiscretion at twenty-five, becomes guilty and criminal at a more advanced period. Professions never yet deluded a nation: the best security a people can have for virtuous public conduct in their Chief Magistrate, arises from a due performance of private duties; and in vain will the faithless husband, the immoral father, the false and capricious friend, the profligate companion, and the patron of vice, afford hope to a disgusted though silent people.

A CONSTANT READER.

THE OPERA.

KING'S THEATRE.

SIR,—It is so generally the unenviable lot of an Opera Critic to write in an uninterrupted strain of invective, to be armed with whips and goads on every occasion, and to frown sternly on all he hears or sees, that he scarcely knows how to lay aside his weapons, and relax his features into good humour, even when he is inclined to do so. If however he enjoys this pleasure but seldom, he is repaid in some degree by feeling it more keenly, and is disposed to be grateful for every deviation that is made from folly towards intellectual entertainment. The opera of *La Clemenza di Tito*,—*The Clemency of Titus*,—lately revived at the King's Theatre, is one of those fortunate and rare productions that completely assuage the critic's sorrows, disarm his resentment, and, by recalling the names of METASTASIO and MOZART to his recollection, make him forget the CARAVITAS and PUCITTAS of the present day. METASTASIO has not however on this occasion been fortunate in selecting his subject, which is of too mild and equable a nature to call forth that variety of musical expression which more violent exertions would excite. There is but one scene which deviates from tameness, but of this one MOZART has taken glorious advantage. *Vitellia*, agitated by jealousy and availing herself of *Sextus's* love for her, prevails upon him to join a conspiracy for the murder of his friend *Titus*. It is here the genius of MOZART is powerfully called into exertion, and springs forth into the sublimest flights of imagination. His music like the mind of *Sextus* is all agitation, alternately melting into tenderness, and bursting with distraction; at length the Capitol is seen in flames,—the signal for tumult to commence, and *Sextus* finding it too late to retract, rushes desperately forth to perpetuate the murder. The shrieks of the populace, and the scene of terror and confusion that ensued, are described by the composer with a grandeur of conception, and a thrilling effect, that is beyond all praise. The rest of the opera is made up in a great measure of protestations of love and friendship, and benevolent soliloquies from *Titus*, but these passages are aided by such soul dissolving airs, such "linked sweetness long drawn out," that it is doubtful whether MOZART's fame may not be as much indebted to them as to the grander effusions of his fancy.

Of the performance of this Opera I shall say but little, for I am unwilling that censure and the name of MOZART should appear on the same page. CATALANI and TRAMEZZANI did much for the composer, and but little for the poet; both seemed to revel in a continual grin, which, however it may be calculated to display a fine set of teeth to advantage, does not exactly accord with English ideas of distress, and might be judiciously transferred to the clowns in our pantomimes, who would give the world for a similar expansion of jaw.

It would be unpardonable to omit mentioning the performance of the orchestra in this Opera, which is perfection itself; the spirit and refined taste of Mr. WEICHSEL, the leader, infuse themselves into every individual, and the wonderful accompaniments give the principal performers ample scope to display their talents; for the whole orchestra is constantly in motion, no vacancy is to be found, and every interstice is filled up by the delicious touches of MOZART's fancy, which sport about in every direction, conducting the ear from one beauty to another with inexhaustible variety.

H. R.

ANOTHER PUBLIC DEFAULTER!!

An extent is said to have been issued on Tuesday last, against the estate of Mr. Chinnery, one of the chief Officers of the Treasury. This Gentleman, it is added, lived in a manner which his situation did not fully justify; that he had been tempted to become deeply concerned in the affairs of the late Mr. Goldsmid, and that his accounts are minus seventy thousands. It is understood that Mr. C. has absconded.—This is the same gentleman (says a Correspondent) who prosecuted his Coachman some months ago for overcharging him a few pounds for Corn, &c.—"When I first heard of the story, I considered the man and master as two ——; but on expressing as much to a friend of mine in the Treasury, he assured me the difference was wide:—the coachman, he said, was certainly a thief, and deserved hanging; but the master was only a *defaulter*; and referred me to a number of similar cases—Mr. Hunt's, Mr. Steel's, Mr. Valentine Jones', &c. &c. &c."

COMMERCE—EAST INDIAN MONOPOLY.

Speech of Thomas Attwood, Esq. High Bailiff, at the Meeting convened at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, March 4th, 1812, respecting the East India Charter:—

"GENTLEMEN,—I have called you together to take into consideration the subjects of the requisition, which I have now read. I have been solicited to open the business of the meeting with a few observations. It is a duty which, however incompetent I may feel to discharge it, yet I will not shrink from, because I am of opinion, that the object we have in view is of the utmost importance to this town and neighbourhood, and to the vital interests of the empire. If I shall have contributed, in the smallest degree, to the promotion of this great measure, I shall derive satisfaction from the reflection as long as I have life.

"Gentlemen, when I received the requisition that is now before me, I thought proper to address about twenty letters to some of the principal manufacturers in Birmingham, in order that I might ascertain, to a certainty, the real state of the

labouring mechanics throughout this great town. I addressed these letters to Gentlemen of the first respectability, on whose word I can place a most implicit reliance. The average of the answers that I have received is, that the labouring mechanics of Birmingham, at this hour, have not more than one half of full employment. Some of the answers that I have received report, that they have not more than one third of full employment, and others that they have not one half, and some few, that they have not two thirds of employment; but I have no report that is higher than two thirds. The labouring mechanics of Birmingham are rapidly consuming that small pittance, which long years of industry and frugality had accumulated as a resource for old age. They are wasting in idleness and discontent that valuable time, which ought to be employed in cheerful industry, and in the honourable provision for a family. Such is the condition of the mechanics of Birmingham; such, in a great degree, has been their condition for several weary years. But they bear their sufferings with manly fortitude. They know that the merchants and manufacturers in whose employ they have been born and bred up, have a fellow-feeling in their necessities, and have done all that is possible for their relief. They know that their sufferings are not unobserved, and that every measure which their fellow-townsmen can devise, as calculated to serve their interests, will not fail of success from the want of exertion.

"And look, Gentlemen, into the situation of the merchants and manufacturers themselves. Look into your own warehouses and storehouses in Birmingham, and in the seaport towns, and see to what an extent they are overloaded with all descriptions of manufactures, which, from motives of honourable sympathy, you have so long continued to purchase or prepare, until at length you are unable to purchase or prepare any longer. But, Gentlemen, your sacrifices are not altogether unrewarded. In the midst of your burthens, you have the honourable satisfaction of having discharged your duty to your country, to your dependents, and yourselves; and it has now become equally your duty and your interest to look up to the Legislature for relief.

"Gentlemen, I have heard it whispered, that we ought not to take into consideration the situation of the manufactures and commerce of the United Kingdom, but that we ought to confine ourselves to the consideration of the manufactures and commerce of our own immediate neighbourhood. Gentlemen, I am desirous to mark that sentiment with your reprobation. It is the public spirit of Englishmen, it is that sympathetic bond, uniting all descriptions of Englishmen in a generous consideration for each other's interests, that has exalted England to the height of glory on which she stands. It is that incessant vigilance over each other's welfare, it is that never ceasing watchfulness over the conduct of the Legislature, and that well timed advice where occasion requires, with the irresistible weight of the public opinion, that have so long preserved the liberties of England, and that I trust will preserve them to the latest posterity.

"When a people forsake every principle of public spirit, when they lock up their thoughts and their feelings in a selfish consideration for their own interest, without any feeling for their country's interest, they are ripe for slavery; they ought to be trod into the dust. Such has been the fate of unfortunate Spain; such has been the fate of all those wretched countries that have bowed their necks to the yoke of Napoleon. Too late they have found that public interest is the best individual interest, and that public spirit is the only rock on which individual happiness can be secured.

"But, unfortunately for us, Gentlemen, whether we confine ourselves to the consideration of our necessities, or take a melancholy view of the whole United Kingdom, we must come to the same conclusion. We must acknowledge that the situation of every branch of manufactures and commerce, external and internal, from one extremity of the empire to the other, is deplorable. Look around, Gentlemen, upon the situation of the great manufacturing and commercial towns throughout the kingdom. Look around upon Sheffield, and Manchester, and Liverpool, and Bristol, and Glasgow, main arteries (if I may so call them) of our empire, and see to what a state commerce is reduced. We have the evidence of the Members for Liverpool, that the paupers in that town have rapidly increased to fifteen thousand, or one-sixth part of the whole population, and that one half of the vessels in her harbour bear a broom at the mast-head—the melancholy signal of sale. We have evidence, almost equally undoubted, that the paupers in Manchester have rapidly increased to twenty thousand, one-fifth of the whole population. Why need I call to your minds the situation of Sheffield? The interests of Sheffield are altogether sympathetic with your own. The smallest embarrassment that presses upon Sheffield is sensibly perceived in Birmingham. And, Gentlemen, if the men of Birmingham have borne up manfully against their sufferings, if they have been too proud to stoop for parochial aid, we may congratulate ourselves upon the character of our townsmen, and we ought to do justice to their merits.

"But, Gentlemen, look around upon Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire, and Leicestershire, and Yorkshire, and you will see discontent and violence spreading themselves in every direction. Look nearer home, and under the very threshold on which you stand, you will see the manufacturers of Dudley, and of the iron-works of Staffordshire, calling upon their country for employment and for bread.

"Turn your eyes, Gentlemen, to the situation of our foreign commerce, and see there the causes of the disastrous consequences which we have surveyed. Shut out from almost every continental port, and from the markets of the United States, Englishmen may roam the undisputed lords of the sea, and in the honourable splendor of that title, they must seek a recompence for their commercial embarrassments. It is a recompence grateful to our feelings, but not sufficient for our necessities.

"But it may be said that we have the colonial trade. True, we have the colonial trade, but in the destruction of all other trade, the colonial trade has not failed to suffer. Ask those Noblemen and Gentlemen who have property in the West Indian Islands; ask the unfortunate West India Merchants and Planters, formerly so prosperous and so wealthy a body of men; ask them the condition of the colonial trade, and you will instantly learn that it is not better than your own. Gentlemen, these are serious considerations; they have a just weight with you; I have no doubt but they will have a just weight with the Legislature.

"Gentlemen, when we contemplate such a state of things, it is painful to us to be told, as we have been, 'Look at the exports.' We know that the exports of the country are considerable, but we also know, that a great part of them are merely military stores, and that the rest are in a degree fictitious. It is true, we have inundated the rocks of Heligoland and Malta, and the wildernesses of South America, with our exports, but the return proceeds have not been and never will be received. Instead of being assumed as a criterion of national prosperity, these exports ought to be assumed as a proof of national distress.

"The unexampled necessities of the manufacturers have forced them to trust all manner of adventurers, who have stepped forward to explore the dangerous regions of commerce, at a time when the elder and more substantial merchants have shrunk from the difficulties which presented themselves.

"Gentlemen, the picture that I have drawn is deplorable, but you know it is correct. Something must be done for the relief of the country. What shall we do? Shall we petition for an ignominous peace?—Never.—The merchants and manufacturers of England have borne long and grievous burthens, but those burthens must be a thousand times heavier, before Englishmen will bend to their enemies. No, Gentlemen, we will never tarnish the honour of our country; but if there is a measure that will give us relief without injuring the national honour; if there is a measure that will render us independent of continental commerce, and materially increase the naval strength and financial resources of the empire; if there is a measure that is equally called for by every principle of justice, and interest, and reason, and necessity, that measure we have a right to demand; that measure, I trust, we shall carry.

"*The Commercial Monopoly of the East India Company must be abolished.*

[*To be concluded next week.*]

EXECUTIONS.—On Monday morning, *Wm. Cundell* and *John Smith*, in pursuance of their sentence for high treason in the Isle of France, were executed, and afterwards beheaded, at Horsemonger-lane, in the presence of some tho sands of spectators, and their remains then delivered over to their respective friends for interment. Their bodies, after hanging nearly 30 minutes, were taken down, and their heads cut off by the executioner, exclaiming, "Behold the head of a traitor!"

On Wednesday morning, at eight o'clock, *George Skene*, late Chief Clerk of Queen-square Police-office, who was convicted at the Old Bailey Sessions of having forged certain receipts for the purpose of defrauding the Treasury, was executed in the Old Bailey. From the moment of the conviction of this unhappy man, till the latter end of last week, he was buoyed up by the hope of the Royal mercy: and a paragraph appeared in some of the public prints, stating that he had received the Royal pardon. These hopes were, however, dissipated on Friday week, when he was given to understand that he had no mercy to expect. He expressed his perfect resignation to his fate. In the course of Tuesday, many of his most intimate friends took their leave; and about four o'clock, he, in company with Lord Robert Seymour, took the sacrament.—At an early hour he was attended by the Ordinary of Newgate, until he was summoned to the Press-yard; from whence, at eight o'clock, he proceeded to the scaffold. Previous to ascending the platform, he seemed considerably affected; but after a few seconds, he resumed his fortitude, and taking off his hat, advanced and submitted himself to the executioner, who, having performed his melancholy office, retired, leaving Dr. Ford with him in prayer. In two minutes afterwards the platform fell.—The crowd which attended the awful spectacle seemed deeply impressed with the scene. After being suspended the usual time, the body was cut down, placed in a coffin, and carried within the prison, where it remained until eight o'clock, and was then delivered to his friends.—The deceased is said to have been of a most respectable family in the North of Scotland; his wife, who was burnt to death about four years since, had been previously the wife of the Earl of Fife, then Mr. Duff. He was formerly clerk at the Shadwell Police-office, and from thence went to the Queen-square Office as chief clerk. He had received a good education, and possessed considerable mental acquirements. It is said that a person employed in the defence of this unfortunate man, having attempted to bribe one of the turnkeys of Newgate to facilitate an escape, a bill of indictment was found against him at the last Old Bailey Sessions.—["The learned, the judicious, the pious Boerhaave relates, that he never saw a criminal dragged to execution without asking himself,—'Who knows whether this man is not less culpable than me?'—On the days when the prisons of this city are emptied into the grave, let every spectator of the dreadful procession put the same question to his own heart. Few among those that crowd in thousands to the legal massacre, and look with carelessness, perhaps with triumph, on the utmost exacerbations of human misery, would then be able to return without horror and dejection; for who can congratulate himself upon a life passed without some act more mischievous to the peace or prosperity of others than the theft of a piece of money?"—The above passage is taken from a work just published under the title of "*The Opinions of different Authors upon the Punishment of Death, selected by Basil Montague, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn. Vol. II.*"—a publication containing much interesting matter.—In the Preface, the Editor states that it "is submitted to public consideration by a Society formed for the diffusion of Knowledge upon the Punishment of Death, and the Improvement of Prison Discipline."—May its holy labours be crowned with success!—It shall not want the humble aid of the *Examiner*.]

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday week, Mr. William Wellesley Pole to Miss Long. The parties met at Lord Montgomerie's house, in Hamilton-place, Piccadilly, at five o'clock in the evening, and, about six, they went to St. James's Church. The Marquis of Wellesley handed Miss Long out of the carriage, and conducted her through the Rector's house to the altar. There were present at the ceremony, Mr. Secretary Pole, Lady Catherine Long, Miss Diana Long, and Miss Emma Long.—The usual forms being gone through, the couple retired by the southern gate, into Jermyn-street. Here a magnificent equipage was in waiting to receive them; it was a chariot painted a bright yellow and highly emblazoned, drawn by four Arabian grey horses, attended by two postillions, in brown jackets, with superbly embroidered badges in gold, emblematic of the united arms of the Wellesley and Tylney families. The new married pair drove off for Blackheath. The dress of the bride consisted of a robe of Brussels point lace; the device a sprig; it was placed over white satin. The head was ornamented with a cottage bonnet, of the same material; viz. Brussels lace, with two ostrich feathers. She likewise wore a deep lace veil, and a white satin pelisse, trimmed with swansdown. The dress cost 700 guineas; the bonnet, 150; and the veil, 200. Mr. Pole wore a plain blue coat, with yellow buttons, a white waistcoat, and buff breeches, and white silk stockings. The wedding favours exceeded eight hundred, composed wholly of silver, and unique in form; those for Ladies having an acorn in the centre, and the Gentleman's a star; each cost a guinea and a half. The inferior ones, for their domestics and others, were made of white satin ribbon, with silver stars, and silver balls and fringe. The Lady's jewels consist principally of a brilliant necklace and ear-rings; the former cost twenty-five thousand guineas. Every domestic in the family of Lady Catherine Long has been liberally provided for; they all have had annuities settled upon them for life; and Mrs. Tylney Long Pole Wellesley's own waiting-woman, who was nurse to her in her infancy, has been liberally considered.—A singular circumstance attended the wedding: on the arrival of the happy pair at the Hymenial altar, the bridegroom was applied to by Dr. Glasse for the ring; he had forgotetn to procure this necessary testimonial! Some confusion arose in consequence, but on recovering from it, a messenger was dispatched to Mr. Brown, a jeweller, in Piccadilly, opposite to the Church, who immediately attended with an assortment, and then the ceremony proceeded without further interruption.—*Morning Post.*

DEATHS.

On Monday evening, at Buckingham-House, in Pall-Mall, the Most Noble Mary, Marchioness of Buckingham, Lady of the Marquis of Buckingham, and Baroness Nugent of Carlanstown, in Ireland, in her own right. Her Ladyship was the daughter and heiress of the late Robert, Earl Nugent, was married to the Marquis in 1774, and created Baroness Nugent in December 1800. Her Ladyship complained of an affection in her eyes, but had not been materially ill till Sunday night, nor were her Physicians seriously alarmed till the morning preceding her death.

On Saturday, the 14th inst., at his house in Newman-street, after a long and severe illness, Mr. R. H. Cromek. His loss (says a Correspondent) will be deeply lamented by an extensive circle of friends, to whom his worthy and amiable qualities endeared him.

On Monday night, at Blackheath, in the 75th year of his age, Lieut.-General Thomas Davies, of the Royal Artillery.

On Thursday, at Wimbledon, in the 78th year of his age, John Horne Took, Esq.

On the 23d ult. at Hartland-Abbey, Devon, in the 73d year of his age, Paul Orchard, Esq. in four successive Parliaments Representative of the borough of Callington.

Mr. Napper, surgeon, Chichester; his death was occasioned by paring off some hard skin from his heel, about three weeks before, when he unfortunately cut too deep, and treating it with indifference, a mortification took place, which terminated his existence.

In Lower Brook-street, Salisbury, Mrs. Sheppard, aged 101 years; she had been blind a few years, notwithstanding which she continued to spin to within a short period of her death.

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